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ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 232.—VOLUME XXII. [NEW SERIES] JULY, 1937

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A Tough Job

“THEY’VE got a tough job, and they’re doing it jolly well.” These words, referring to Their Majesties the King and Queen, imply no disrespect, but on the contrary a strong personal feeling of admiration and understanding.

I heard these words or something like them over and over again while I stood with my two hundred St. Dunstan’s comrades in Hyde Park at the King’s Review of Ex-Service Men on Sunday, 27th June. We were all there to pay our formal respects to the King and Queen, to take part in a revival of those sentiments of comradeship and unity which had bound us together in war. And while the formal respects were duly paid, it was very noticeable how these personal feelings of admiration and understanding pervaded the gathering. Eighty thousand ex-service men had come to honour the Crown, and stayed to feel affection and regard for the persons of the King and Queen.

St. Dunstan’s put up a good show. Our contingent of two hundred took its place with the men who went on parade and marched past. We might have gone into the special enclosure for disabled men, but I felt, and my friends agreed with me, that since we could march and do our drill as well as anybody, we would rather take this more active and normal part in the proceedings.

So we marched past in column of twenties—a most difficult manoeuvre, but our line was straight, we were in step and our “eyes right” was as good as you could wish. The crowd cheered, the King and Queen paid us the very great compliment of giving a special acknowledgment of our salute, the Queen and Queen Mary rising from their seats as we passed. The Royal Party sent for me to go to the platform, and I had the honour of a talk with the Queen for some minutes, while the endless stream of regimental and other Associations filed by. Her Majesty expressed deep appreciation of the Parade and of the fact that so many had come from such distances. In particular she complimented the St. Dunstan’s contingent on its bearing in the march past.

We have to thank the War Office, the Police, the British Legion, St. Dunstan’s Staff and our Escorts for their help, and the British Public for the reception they gave us. The moment our contingent came into sight we were recognized, not merely as a contingent of blinded soldiers, but as “St. Dunstan’s,” and we received a great greeting.

St. Dunstan’s in Scotland

Something similar though on a smaller scale took place in Edinburgh on Monday, 5th July, when thirty Scotsmen in the charge of Captain William Appleby, a member of

St. Dunstan's Council, and of Corporal Major Tovell, attended on the occasion of the Royal Visit to Scotland. They received a great reception in the crowded streets as they marched down from the assembly point to their place on the route. This was a favoured position just inside the gates of Holyrood House, next to the Newington House men, with whom friendly conversations were exchanged. A smart salute to the King and Queen as they passed, a gracious acknowledgment from Their Majesties, a personal visit from and a word with Lady Haig, who it may be remembered was once a V.A.D. at St. Dunstan's, and a luncheon afterwards which she attended, all contributed towards a most happy and memorable day. The spirit and feeling in Edinburgh were, it seems, just the same as on Coronation Day, and at the Hyde Park Parade in London.

Our German Comrades

This week we welcomed at St. Dunstan's five Germans. They were Herr Martens, Leader of the German War-Blinded Organization and Herr von Cossell, a senior official of the German Ex-Service Movement, Herr Voigt, Leader of the war-blinded in Northern Germany, and Mrs. Voigt, accompanied by their son, Dr. Heinz Voigt, who acted as interpreter for the party. Herr Martens and Herr Voigt were themselves blinded in the War. We were taking our small part in carrying out the wishes expressed by the King that contacts between ex-service men of all countries should be made.

The Germans received a splendid reception at the Rowing Dinner which they attended. The toast of "Our German Comrades," proposed in German by Colonel Ball, was drunk with enthusiasm, and was followed by the singing of "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows."

During the three or four days the Germans are in London they have visited Headquarters and Raglan Street, and the National Institute for the Blind to obtain all the information they can. The German Leaders said, "We have learned much that will be of great value to us for the After-care of our blinded men."

The hope that these meetings will contribute to understanding and peace was the wish of Germans and British alike.

St. Dunstan's Sports Captain

Captain the Rev. J. E. Williams has resigned the office of Sports Captain, but he remains Honorary Chaplain to St. Dunstan's. Captain Williams resigned with deep regret because he loved the work and would have liked to have gone on with it. But sports are so varied in character and so important that they require a Sports Captain on the spot at Headquarters, so Mr. Swain has been appointed to that office.

I have expressed to Captain Williams our very deep appreciation of the services he has always rendered to us as Padre and Sports Captain, and the sacrifice he has made in carrying on this difficult job with such long journeys from his parish in Lincolnshire to London.

At the Rowing Dinner I announced this and the men joined with me in a unanimous tribute of appreciation and thanks.

IAN FRASER.

Stop Press

Sudden Death of Corporal Major Tovell

As we go to press, we learn with the deepest regret of the sudden death of Corporal Major Tovell.

"Bill"—as everyone at St. Dunstan's will think of him—was taken ill about a week ago, but his death on July 26th was entirely unexpected. Pneumonia had developed, and although he was removed to hospital, he passed away shortly afterwards.

He had been with us for twenty years, and it is impossible to say how much he will be missed, both by St. Dunstan's men and by St. Dunstan's staff.

A Message from Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

Many, many thanks for the Greetings Telegrams you have so kindly sent me from the Reunions all over the country, bringing to me all your good wishes. I cannot tell you how much I have appreciated this very charming thought of yours and I send to each one of you my love and very best thanks. All your good wishes will, I am quite sure, help to get me better soon. Once again, many, many thanks,

Ever your affectionate old

Brighton.

MATRON.

"Weekly News Letter"

THE National Institute for the Blind has decided to publish Commander Stephen King-Hall's "Weekly News Letter" in Braille.

We shall be pleased to send this publication to any St. Dunstaner who likes to let us have his name. H. V. K.

Mr. Thomson Brown

TWO most pleasant ceremonies took place in the Chairman's office on Friday, 18th June. They were presentations to Mr. J. Thomson Brown, who retired from St. Dunstan's service a few months ago after twenty years' work.

Sir Ian Fraser said: "At the suggestion of a number of St. Dunstaners, the poultry farmers as a whole have joined in collecting a small fund with the object of making a presentation to Mr. Thomson Brown. There are present here to-day, Messrs. W. Heushaw, A. Chaffin, E. H. Carpenter, and P. Holmes, who represent their fellows. They have decided to ask Mr. Thomson Brown to accept a beautiful and very comfortable armchair, the use of which they hope he will enjoy for a long time to come. (Applause.) Some hundreds of blinded soldiers have benefited by the pursuit of poultry-farming and other country life occupations. The settlement and after-care of these men have been the concern of Mr. Thomson Brown since the early days, and they are indebted to him for his most devoted work, valuable advice and friendship. They ask me to say they wish him and Mrs. Thomson Brown all happiness and the best of good luck in their retirement." (Applause.)

Mr. Askew said on behalf of Mr. Thomson Brown's colleagues on the staff at Headquarters, he had pleasure in presenting a book table. They looked back upon many years of friendship and co-operation with Mr. Thomson Brown. There was no more respected and well-liked member of our staff. They expressed their most sincere good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Thomson Brown for the future.

Mr. Thomson Brown, replying, said: "I should like to place on record that my old staff at the Poultry Farm have also given me a most beautiful presentation, namely, a bureau. These three gifts from the men, from the Headquarters staff, and

from the Poultry Farm staff, will always be treasured by my wife and me. (Applause.) We have been full of admiration for the way in which St. Dunstaners, many of whose farms and homes I have personally visited, have overcome their difficulties and got on with the job. We wish them all prosperity and happiness in the future. We look back with pleasure upon the agreeable relationships with Headquarters and the farm staffs, and express our thanks for their loyalty and friendship during the past twenty years."

Besides the blinded soldiers mentioned, a representative gathering of the staff were present. Mr. Thomson Brown told his friends that he and his wife were living on the moor a few miles from Bournemouth, where he was building a small house and intended to enjoy the quiet of the country, and where he would make himself a garden.

To our Poultry Farmers

You presented me on the 18th June with your very handsome gift, and as only four of you were present on that occasion I would like to take this opportunity of sending to you all my most sincere and warmest thanks.

The lovely lounge chair is a most acceptable gift, and is just the very nicest thing you could have given me. In its daily use it will constantly remind me of the pleasant visits I made to many of you in your own homes, and of the warm welcomes I received.

I have enjoyed the work amongst you boys, and I am very sorry that my time has come to an end, but my thoughts will always be with you, and I sincerely hope that the revival in the poultry industry, for which we are all hoping, will come soon and that you will all benefit thereby.

Again with my very best thanks for your generous gift, and kindest wishes to you all. J. THOMSON BROWN.

29th June, 1937.

Silver Weddings

CONGRATULATIONS to W. H. Lacey, of Edmonton, N.9, and his wife, who celebrated their silver wedding in April, and to C. A. Glasspool, of Brixton, and his wife, whose anniversary was on the 12th July.

Visit of German War-Blinded

DURING the past fortnight we have welcomed to Headquarters a party of German ex-Servicemen—two of them blinded in the War. They were Herr August Martens, leader of the German War-Blind Organization, Herr Hans F. W. Voigt, District Leader of the Hamburg and surrounding districts Organization, and Herr Von Cossell, Chief Adjutant to Herr Oberlindober, the Leader of the German Ex-Servicemen's Organization. Herr Martens and Herr Voigt were blinded during the War.

Herr Voigt was accompanied by his wife, Frau Voigt, and his son, Dr. Heinz Voigt, who acted as interpreter.

The party arrived in London early on Tuesday morning, July 13th, and after they had been welcomed at their hotel by Sir Neville Pearson, Colonel Eric Ball, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, and Mr. Askew, they came on to Headquarters where they made an extensive tour of the building. They saw how our men are taught telephony, and they visited the Talking Book studios. They learned, too, of the systems by which St. Dunstan's keeps in touch with its men. The visitors showed the keenest interest in everything they were shown.

In the evening the party went to Sadlers Wells Theatre and saw "The Yeomen of the Guard." On Wednesday morning they visited Raglan Street for an inspection of our stores, and in the afternoon visited Putney for the Regatta. They also attended the Rowing Dinner in the evening. The following day was occupied with a visit to the National Institute for the Blind and in the evening they were entertained to dinner at the House of Commons, Admiral Sir Murray Sueter, M.P., presiding. Mr. Ramsbotham, Minister of Pensions, Colonel Charles Kerr, M.P., Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., and Sir Ian and Lady Fraser were also among the guests.

On Friday morning the visitors went to the Cenotaph in Whitehall where they placed a wreath.

The party left London on Saturday morning, after a visit which had proved most friendly and successful.

Marriage

LEA-HARDY.—On 23rd June, at St. Peter's Church, Mancetter, J. H. Lea, of Mancetter, to Miss Anne Hardy.

For Those who find Difficulty with Braille Cards

CALLING on W. J. Wright, of Normandy, near Guildford, recently, Miss Lloyd found that he was very distressed that he could not play with the ordinary Braille cards.

E. Jackson, of New Malden, was with Miss Lloyd, and on the way home, they tried to think out some way to make the cards readable to him. Here is what they devised, in Miss Lloyd's own words.

"I got the smallest paper clips and put one into each pip of the card, and 1, 2, and 3 clips into a special corner close together to indicate respectively King, Queen and Knave. Then for the different suits I put one clip in centre top, one clip in centre side, and one clip in centre of the other side of each card of the suit, leaving the other suit unmarked.

"Then, as it struck me that a sighted player could read the cards from the back, I got an old pack and stuck them on the back of each card. It makes the cards very thick, but they can be shuffled on the table and have served their purpose."

Wright has tried his new pack and he can, and does, enjoy playing with them.

Births

ALBERTELLA.—To the wife of M. Albertella, of Southend, on the 14th July, a son.

BURGIN.—To the wife of W. Burgin, of Thurgo-land, on the 20th July, a son.

FEARN.—To the wife of E. Fearn, of East Kirkby, on the 15th July, a son.

GRATTIDGE.—To the wife of C. H. Grattidge, of Tysley, Birmingham, on the 5th July, a daughter.

LOVERIDGE.—To the wife of A. G. Loveridge, of Harrow, on the 12th July, a son.

PETERS.—To the wife of W. Peters, of Liver- pool, on the 25th June, a son—Thomas.

WALSH.—To the wife of the late P. Walsh, of Cork, on the 25th June, a daughter—Rita Clare.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

FISHER.—To T. M. Fisher, of Longforan, Perthshire, and his wife, whose daughter, Mary, died suddenly on 15th July.

STERNO.—To A. Sterno, of Bath, whose wife passed away on the 9th July.

WILKIE.—To the wife of J. W. Wilkie, of Burton-on-Trent, who lost her father on the 12th June.

WILLIAMS.—To R. J. Williams, of Southwick, and his sister, Mrs. Fallowfield (wife of our St. Dunstaner), whose mother died on the 5th July.

Royal Review of Ex-Service Men in Hyde Park

TWO hundred St. Dunstaners took part in the Review of eighty thousand ex-Service men by His Majesty the King in Hyde Park on Sunday, 27th June. One hundred men came from London, and the remainder from other parts of the country. All were chosen by ballot. By a special arrangement with the British Legion, every St. Dunstaner coming from the provinces was escorted to London by a member of the local branch of the Legion, and by the same arrangement they had escorts on the return journey. Once in London, every man came straight to headquarters where an early lunch was provided.

At twelve o'clock, the whole St. Dunstan's contingent started out in buses and cars for Hyde Park, there to take up their allotted position on the parade ground. Shortly after half-past two Their Majesties arrived, and after a short service, drove along the lines of the parade, returning to the Royal platform where the King addressed the great gathering. His Majesty said: "I am happy to think that, as patron, I am in the future to be associated with the work of some of those bodies which make up the great brotherhood of ex-Service men. Being one of the brotherhood myself, I have always followed their progress with real interest and sympathy. The Queen and I wish every one of you prosperity and happiness. For us this gathering will always remain one of the most outstanding events of our Coronation Year."

Their Majesties, with Queen Mary, and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, then walked to an enclosure where they spent some time with badly disabled men whose injuries prevented them sharing in the final stage of the review. They then proceeded to another platform where they were to watch the March Past.

Led by Major-General Sir Frederick Maurice, President of the British Legion, the contingents—representative of every ex-Service organization in the country—marched past. As each division approached the saluting base, banners flying, a leader left the ranks to be presented to Their Majesties. There was deafening applause as St. Dunstan's contingent swung past, led by Captain Sir Ian Fraser,

who stepped aside from the ranks and joined the Royal Party.

The long lines filed past at last and the review was over. The Royal Party left amid round upon round of cheers, and our contingent made its way across the Park to the buses which were to take them back to Headquarters.

* * *

St. Dunstan's sincere thanks are offered to those who by the loan of cars, or by other means, gave such valuable help on the day of the parade.

The King's Visit to Scotland

ST. DUNSTANERS AT HOLYROOD PARADE
LED by Captain William Appleby, member of the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's, thirty Scottish St. Dunstaners took part in the parade of Regular troops and ex-Service men when the King made his State journey from Edinburgh to Holyrood House on July 5th.

The party assembled at Fairlie's Restaurant, Edinburgh, and after a very early breakfast, started out on their march to the Palace, where a special position in the forecourt had been allotted to them. There, with war-blinded men from Newington House, and the Guard of Honour of the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders, they awaited the arrival of Their Majesties. At last they came, and in the words of the *Glasgow Daily Record*, "When Their Majesties reached the forecourt there was a tremendous burst of cheering from the crowd, particularly from that section which accommodated the blind ex-Service men." Graciously Their Majesties gave special recognition to St. Dunstan's party.

To everyone's pleasure, Lady Haig came and chatted with the members of our party, and accepted an invitation to lunch with the men and their wives at Fairlie's Restaurant, where she gave a most interesting account of her experiences in connection with her work for the British Legion in the Dominions.

One of the chief features of the Royal visit to Holyrood House was the ancient Reddendo ceremony of the Royal Company of Archers—His Majesty's bodyguard for Scotland—and St. Dunstaners will be interested to know that a member of our Executive Council—Lieut.-Col. Charles Iain Kerr, D.S.O., M.C., M.P.—who is an Archer in the Royal Company—was on duty on this occasion.

Playing Cards

HOW TO ARRANGE A HAND

I USE cards marked on the face at the index.

Hold the cards between the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, so that you can feel the Braille mark with the right forefinger. Put spades at the back of the hand, hearts between the fore and long fingers, diamonds between the long and ring fingers, and clubs between the ring and little fingers. As you feel each card put it into its proper compartment. With hearts, diamonds and clubs put the honours behind and the rags in front. Once through the hand, run through the spades and put these honours behind.

If you are in a hurry, as at a whist drive, this arranging would be sufficient. If, however, you have time and desire to arrange more precisely, arrange the spades according to values, best cards behind, while you hold them between the thumb and forefinger. With the right hand reverse the positions of spades and hearts, and arrange the hearts properly. Put the hearts behind the spades—that is two suits between the fore and long fingers. Put the diamonds between the thumb and forefinger, arrange them and put them behind the hearts. Do the same with the clubs. Hold the hand between the thumb and forefinger spread out fanwise so that the index marks can be felt. W. S.

Notes and News

Congratulations to F. G. Braithwaite, of Guildford, who has just celebrated the "coming of age" of his shop. It is twenty-one years since he started in his leather-goods business, now a very flourishing concern. * * *

"Lady be Good," a whippet owned by L. Hutchinson, of Bedlington, carried off two trophies at the Beverley and District Canine Society's show, winning for our St. Dunstaner the Fairlawn Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best exhibit in the show, and the Glenmere Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best novice. * * *

T. Butler, of Distington, Cumberland, presented a wool rug to Whitehaven Hospital Carnival Committee. It realized no less than £25 15s. 8d., a magnificent result, and a first-rate advertisement for Butler's work. * * *

As usual there will be no *Review* published in August.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

GENERAL SPORTS DAY, 1937

THE Annual General Sports were held on Saturday, June 19th, on the Sports Ground in Regent's Park, and although the weather was rather cold for a June day the rain kept off until just about five minutes after the last prize was presented in the evening.

Lady Fraser came over to the ground early in the afternoon and stayed to meet and welcome St. Dunstaners and their wives.

We had the usual large number of entries and just as high a standard as ever.

Special contests decided the Inter-Club Cup Competition. It will be remembered that London took the points for this event last year and they were again placed 1st with Manchester 2nd and Brighton 3rd.

We are very grateful to the Band of the St. Marylebone British Legion for entertaining us during the afternoon once again.

After Sports tea was served indoors at Headquarters as the weather was rather doubtful, but we were able to have the prizes presented on the lawn by Lady Fraser who was accompanied by Sir Ian. By the kindness of Mr. Pinder, who is in charge of the Talking Book Department at St. Dunstan's, excellent arrangements were made for music after tea and also for the amplification of announcements during the prize-giving.

The prizes and toys for the children were as marvellous as ever, and our very sincere thanks are due to our many friends, helpers and staff.

Results

INTER-CLUB TEAM COMPETITION

1st LONDON, 2nd MANCHESTER, 3rd BRIGHTON, 4th BIRMINGHAM. (London Team—F. Winter,

J. Jerome, A. Crooke, W. Birchall)

(B. Section) (A. Section)

75 YARDS SPRINT

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Birchall | 1. J. Walker |
| 2. Lacey | 2. McSteel |
| 3. Webster | 3. Scott |

CHILDREN

Girls under 6

- Joyce Barrett
- Gracie Fallowfield
- Marjorie Triggs
- Jean Douglas
- Violet Bonner
- Frances Chiverton

Boys under 6

- John Rickaby
 - David Loveridge
 - Roy Boorman
 - John Buchanan
 - Andrew Colley
 - Geoffrey Craddock
- Cons. John Parrick

Girls under 9

1. Nora Burran
 2. Margaret Frampton
 3. Marjorie Abbott
 4. Joyce Edwards
 5. Brenda Hazel
 6. Phyllis Moeller
- Cons. Brenda Pearce*

Girls under 12

1. Enid Pimm
 2. Marjorie Fallowfield
 3. Yvonne Pearce
 4. Avis Peckham
 5. Barbara Tomkinson
 6. Brenda Thomas
- Cons. Beryl Cook*

Girls under 15

1. Peggy Smith
 2. Joyce Tomkinson
 3. Joan Fallowfield
 4. Rosemary Jackson
 5. Joan Ollington
 6. Joyce Smith
- Cons. Winifred Smith*

LADIES' SURPRISE RACE

1. Mrs. Meredith
2. Mrs. Brown
3. Miss Moore
4. Mrs. Fallowfield
5. Mrs. Samworth
6. Mrs. Wiltshire

THREE-LEGGED RACE

1. W. Lacey and Miss Mooney
2. Mr. and Mrs. Park
3. C. Hancock and Mrs. Deegan
4. Mr. and Mrs. Wiltshire
5. Mr. and Mrs. Fallowfield
6. J. Greaves and Miss Burran

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL

- B. Section*
1. Winter
 2. Lacey
 3. Brown

- A. Section*
1. Meredith
 2. Roden
 3. Cook

PUTTING THE WEIGHT

- B. Section*
1. Macfarlane
 2. Winter
 3. Greaves

- A. Section*
1. Walker
 2. Jerome
 3. Cook

THROWING THE FOOTBALL

- B. Section*
1. Winter
 2. Greaves
 3. Peach

- A. Section*
1. McSteel
 2. Roden
 3. Croke

SINGLE JUMP

- B. Section*
1. Birchall
 2. Scott
 3. Macfarlane

- A. Section*
1. Walker
 2. Roden
 3. Croke

Brighton

There will be no meeting of the Brighton Sports Club during August and September. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 13th.

Annual Regatta

THE Annual Regatta was held at Putney on Wednesday, July 14th, and for this event we were favoured with a heat wave.

The usual programme was carried through, with the addition of a new feature, a single sculls race for our deaf men. Through the good offices of Captain Perrin, a war-blinded officer from Australia who has recently been training in England, the prize for this event was presented by the Melbourne Legacy Club. In the Inter-Cup Competition, London and Birmingham tied with ten points. Each club will, therefore, hold the Cup for six months. Brighton and Manchester also tied with two points each.

The President's Cup was won again this year by Gimber's crew—F. Winter, W. Birchall, and R. Edwards—and Lady (Arthur) Pearson has kindly presented a medal to each member of this crew.

Unfortunately, Mr. Nickalls was unable to be with us after all—he has recently undergone a severe operation—but Mr. McNab brought along an Old Blues Four. They were successful by two lengths in the Open Fours event.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson was present to watch the racing, and other interested spectators were the party of five Germans—two of them blinded in the War—who were visiting St. Dunstan's.

Our sincere thanks are offered to the donors of prizes, the Leander and Thames Rowing Clubs for their help, the students of Bedford College who acted as coxswains, the officials, and to everyone else who contributed towards making this such an enjoyable and successful Regatta.

Rowing Dinner

THE Regatta Dinner took place in the evening at the Connaught Rooms, at the kind invitation of Sir George Harvey, M.P.

We were very glad indeed to welcome the party of German ex-Servicemen as our guests on this occasion.

Sir Ian Fraser gave a welcome to everyone present, and then called upon Colonel Eric Ball, senior member of St. Dunstan's Council. Speaking in German, Colonel Ball gave a hearty welcome to our German friends, and referred to His Majesty's ex-

pressed wish that old soldiers would continue to make contacts all over the world to promote peace. Old soldiers of all countries, he said, had many things in common. There was blindness, for example, which we and our visitors try to conquer. There were the soldierly virtues of courage, loyalty, and comradeship, and lastly, there was the desire of all old soldiers that there should be peace.

"We meet now," he said, "in the most friendly manner to try and understand each other better, and promote good relations between our two countries. We hope also that the things you have been shown at St. Dunstan's will contribute something towards the wellbeing of German blinded soldiers and other blind persons in Germany. We in our turn have gained much from our contacts with you." Colonel Ball translated his remarks into English, and concluded, "I give you the toast of Welcome to our German Guests." This was received with cheers and the singing of "For They are Jolly Good Fellows."

Herr August Martens then replied in German, his remarks being translated by Dr. Heinz Voigt. He spoke of the pleasure it gave him and his comrades to meet war-blinded British ex-service men. Germany, he said, had much to learn in the work of after-care of her war-blinded, and he was taking back with him a store of information. On behalf of all German blinded soldiers, he brought good wishes to St. Dunstaners.

In a speech that kept his listeners amused from start to finish, Sir Neville Pearson expressed the thanks of St. Dunstan's to all those who had helped to make the Regatta such a success. He thanked the judges, and the coxes, the officials and donors of prizes, and for each he had a humorous word. There was a special vote of thanks to Miss Morris and "Bill" Tovell, who in response to repeated cries of "Speech," replied on behalf of Miss Morris and himself.

Herr Hans F. W. Voigt, a war-blinded German officer, also spoke of his pleasure at meeting St. Dunstan's men.

Regatta Results

<i>Event</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>	
Inter-Club Double Sculls	BIRMINGHAM J. Gimber M. Costello	LONDON S. Webster W. Scott	MANCHESTER J. Coupland T. ap Rhys	$\frac{3}{4}$ L.
Inter-Club Pair Oar	LONDON W. Robinson J. Macfarlane	BIRMINGHAM W. Trott J. Dennick	BRIGHTON G. Fallowfield T. Rouse	2 L.
One-armed Pairs	N. Downs J. Jerome	R. Young T. Stratfull		2 L.
Pair Oar	W. Robinson W. Scott	S. Webster J. Macfarlane	H. Kerr F. Parker	1 L.
Double Sculls	R. Williams J. Gimber	M. Costello P. Holmes	T. Rouse G. Fallowfield	3 L.
Single Sculls (Class A.)	J. Treby	T. Rouse	S. Edwards	3 ft.
Single Sculls (Class B.)	M. Costello	G. Brown	B. Ingrey	$\frac{3}{4}$ L.
Single Sculls, Veterans	C. Williams	J. Mellor	A. Craigie	3 L.
Single Sculls Deaf-Blind	G. Fallowfield	R. Williams	G. Parrick	2 L.
Open Fours	(<i>Old Blues</i>) J. A. McNabb A. O. O. Stevens H. R. M. Rickett W. H. Warrenner (Miss Stein)	R. Edwards W. Birchall F. Winter J. Gimber (Mrs. Spurway)	W. Scott W. Robinson S. Webster J. Macfarlane (Miss Jamison)	2 L.
Inter-Club Cup Competition	Birmingham 10 points London 10 points		Manchester 2 points Brighton 2 points	

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Bill Tovell

WHILE I was on my holiday in Austria, news came to me of Bill Tovell's sudden death. I heard this with the very deepest regret, on both personal and St. Dunstan's grounds. Men with a genuine love of service and the ability to render it with understanding are hard to find. Corporal Major Tovell was one of these.

I am told that more than a hundred blinded soldiers went to his funeral at short notice. This was indeed a fitting tribute on behalf of St. Dunstan's. Mr. Askew represented me there; I wish I could have been present, but I was nine hundred miles away.

A charming personality, a devotion to duty, a way of handling all kinds and conditions of men, and a great gift for friendship—these were Bill Tovell's outstanding virtues. He will not be forgotten by his many friends at St. Dunstan's.

Holidays

I hope those of my St. Dunstan's friends who took their holidays in August had as good weather as I did. I had an excellent time in the Austrian mountains. We stayed by the edge of a lake which has hot springs in it, so that whether the weather was warm or not, the lake was always about 78° F. This is a few degrees warmer than the sea is ever found around the English coast. Warm bathing was the order of the day, and I spent many hours swimming in the sun. One day I swam a kilometre across the lake, which greatly surprised me. The air was cool, for the lake was fairly high up in the mountains, and there were no flies or mosquitoes or dust. I have not met anything quite so delightful as this climate except in the Rocky Mountains in Canada.

One day when we were having tea at a hotel, after a walk through the woods, we had the honour of meeting His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor and the Duchess of Windsor. On my return to England I found that a morning newspaper had somehow or other got a report of this, which was both unauthorized and inaccurate—indeed part of it was pure invention.

The Duke and Duchess spoke in a charming and friendly manner about purely personal and holiday matters, and no reference of any kind was made to matters of state, past, present or future.

Incidentally, the inaccuracy of this newspaper report is further evidenced by the fact that they described me as a V.C. I have written to inform them that I do not possess that honour.

Brighton

Miss Thellusson's absence, owing to her continued and, I am sorry to say, serious illness, from the ceremony of laying the Foundation Stone of the new Brighton Home, introduced a note of sadness and regret to an otherwise charming and brilliant function. The invitations as regards both St. Dunstaners and others were confined to those directly concerned with the Home or residents in Brighton and Hove, because a much more representative gathering was in mind for the occasion of the official opening next year. Lady (Arthur) Pearson gave pleasure to all by the graceful way in which she performed the ceremony; the sun shone; the speeches were short and to the point, and all agreed that the new Home made its formal start under the most auspicious conditions. It will be a beautiful place, on a beautiful site.

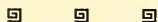
IAN FRASER.

Armistice Dance

THE Armistice Dance will be held on Tuesday, November 9th from 7.30 to 11.30 p.m., at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W.1. St. Dunstaners wishing to attend should apply to Mr. Ottaway at Headquarters, for tickets. (One escort for each man). A number of men have asked whether it will be possible for their elder children to attend. After careful consideration of the amount of accommodation available, it has been decided that allocation of fifty tickets can be made for the children of St. Dunstan's men over the age of sixteen years. These tickets will be allotted in order of application, one to each man. In the event of more than fifty applications being received, a note will be made of the names of the unsuccessful applicants, and these will be given the first opportunity of tickets at the next dance.

Deaths of Old Friends

WE have heard with great regret of the death of Miss Edith Doran, who will be remembered by many men as one of our earliest Braille teachers. Miss Doran not only did much voluntary teaching for us in those early days, but she has always taken a keen personal interest in our men, and she will be very much missed. Until her death, she was a generous subscriber to the funds of St. Dunstan's.



The death is also announced of Mr. C. E. Dustow, who will be known to many earlier men. A blind man himself, he founded the Blind Tea Agency, whose staff was almost solely composed of blind people, and he welcomed many St. Dunstaners to his house at Ilford for tea and a chat.

The New Brighton Home

LADY (ARTHUR) PEARSON, D.B.E., President of St. Dunstan's, laid the foundation stone of St. Dunstan's new Home at Ovingdean, Brighton, on Monday, September 6th. The ceremony was presided over by Captain Sir Ian Fraser, and representing St. Dunstan's Executive Council were Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., Colonel Eric Ball, Mr. E. E. Mavrogordato, Capt. W. Appleby and Miss Hamar Greenwood. Lady Fraser was also present. After speeches of welcome by the Mayor of Brighton and the Mayor of Hove, Colonel Eric Ball, Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, explained their desire to continue St. Dunstan's happy association with Brighton. Sir Neville Pearson then thanked the architect, Mr. Francis Lorne, the builders, and the workmen. He said he hoped that the men working on the building would feel that they were helping to rebuild the lives of men whose sacrifices had helped this country to maintain a standard of life denied to many other countries.

After Lady Pearson had performed the ceremony, a dedicatory prayer was said by the Rev. J. E. Williams, a Chaplain to St. Dunstan's.

Representatives of the Grocers' Federation, which gave the Kemp Town Home to St. Dunstan's in 1918, were also present including Sir Harold Pink, the President, and Mr. Herman Kent, Secretary.

Queen Mary a Basketmaker

Queen Mary, who has always been keenly interested in the craft of basket-making, and in particular, in the work of blind weavers, has become an Honorary Free Sister of the Basketmakers' Company. This is the first time a Queen's name has ever appeared in the membership list.

Bill Tovell

FROM the *Daily Express*, July 30th :

'OLD COMRADE FALLS OUT.

"Sightless men are sitting in silent thought at St. Dunstan's. They cannot yet understand it all.

'Bill' Tovell has left them for good. It is the only bad turn he ever did them. Bill, an ex-corporal-major of the Royal Horse Guards, was sports instructor to these blinded war comrades. He had worked at St. Dunstan's for twenty years.

Every man under the care of St. Dunstan's knew Bill. Blind men scattered over the Empire have been encouraged by his voice. He was a universal brother to them all. He called them his 'boys.' All their sporting activities were organized by him.

Bill caught a chill last week. He was taken to hospital and . . .

He seemed so proof against such a thing as a chill. The St. Dunstan's army above all men know the meaning of the word 'loss.'

Even so, the loss of Bill at present seems to them too tough to be true."

So, to many of us, the first sad news of the death of our old friend, Bill Tovell, came, and there seems little to add. Bill was so much to all of us, and his loss cannot easily be described.

Officially, he was Sports Instructor to St. Dunstan's men. Unofficially, he was friend, escort, adviser—but most of all, friend—to every one of us.

He came to St. Dunstan's twenty years ago to help our men keep fit. He remained as our Sports Instructor, training his "boys" to take their place in the world of sports until to-day their skill as oarsmen, walkers, swimmers, and sportsmen, is general knowledge. "We learn our trade, come home to work it, and get used to working alone, but in sport, we go back to St. Dunstan's to do our stuff. Without Bill, it could not have been done." So wrote a deaf-blind St. Dunstanian, and he spoke for all his fellow sportsmen. They could have had no better instructor. Bill was a sportsman in every sense of the word.

St. Dunstanians all over the British Empire have heard of his death with the deepest sorrow. To quote from but a few of their tributes would be impossible. We can only give one, but this, we know, represents the thoughts of every man who has passed through St. Dunstan's.

"When we look back over our activities, we know that Tovell was in all of

them. Regattas, walks, sports, swimming, football matches, dances, camps, trips abroad; while we had Bill with us we knew that everything would be well. Tovell knew us, watched us grow up, he knew our families, and was just as happy to meet our wives and children. Always ready with a joke or an explanation to settle any argument, he was a great peace-maker. If there was ever a man who knew what Victory over Blindness meant, it was Tovell. It is to Tovell that we owe in great part, any ability that we may have in that conquest. It is well to remember that so many of our men throughout the Empire have had the joy of his help and comradeship. When we look back on our happy times, we have a great deal to thank Providence for that Tovell was sent to us. We were his 'jolly old sportsmen,' and if we were, it was Tovell who made us put up a good show."

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at Willesden New Cemetery on July 31st. More than a hundred St. Dunstanians from London and Brighton were there to pay their last tribute. In the absence of Sir Ian Fraser, who was abroad, Mr. Askew headed the large number of officials, V.A.D.'s and members of the staff who attended the funeral.

The coffin, covered with the Union Jack, was borne by six men of his old regiment, the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues). The service was conducted by the Vicar of St. Matthews, Willesden, who led the singing of the hymn, "Rock of Ages," at the graveside.

Among the many wreaths were those from Lady (Arthur) Pearson and Sir Neville Pearson; Sir Ian and Lady Fraser; the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of St. Dunstan's; St. Dunstanians at the Brighton Home; Matron and Sisters of the Brighton Home; London St. Dunstan's Sports Club; Brighton Sports Club; Birmingham Sports Club; Manchester Sports Club; the deaf sportsmen of St. Dunstan's; the Sports Office Staff and helpers; Stock Exchange Athletic Club; Comrades' Association, Royal Horse Guards; Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers, Royal Horse Guards; Metropolitan Police Athletic Association; and St. Dunstan's Staff.

Deaf-Blind St. Dunstaner Visits American Battleship

AN hour on the American battleship, *Arkansas*, was worth our rough passage in reaching her anchorage. I feared troubled in climbing on board. A heavy lurch on the part of our launch at the wrong moment, before I could plant myself firmly on the gangway, I well knew might pitch me into the English Channel instead, but I arrived on the fore-deck without mishap. After the wild career of our launch, I could hardly realise I was still afloat. This massive, steel construction lay as quiet on the water as a church does on land. Like most fighting ships of to-day, the *Arkansas* carries several aeroplanes which are launched off her decks by catapults.

After drying out clothes over the engine-room hatch, we saw a little of the human side of the ship. Amidst an appetizing aroma, the cooks were busy preparing coffee, and rissoles for the evening meal. We looked in at the tailor's and cobbler's shops. Lastly we saw the "candy shop" or canteen. We could buy ice-creams, made on the spot, but nothing intoxicating is ever sold. A tot of rum does not form part of the daily rations.

The bluejackets were a congenial crowd. Very polite and pleased to answer questions. I had a chat and a smoke with several of them. They all use petrol-lighters to save the journey of walking to the ship's side to throw match ends overboard. These latter are not allowed to be dropped on the deck. I obtained a five cent piece from one of the seamen as a souvenir of the visit. I should think that life in the U.S. Navy must have a very pleasant, and comfortable side.

These impressions confirm my opinion that a sailor is far better off than a soldier can hope to be.

Our cameras were temporarily confiscated whilst we remained aboard, but we got some good pictures of the ship as we left her side.

G. J. WHEELER.

Personal

Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. West wish to thank, through the REVIEW, all those friends who sent kind expressions of sympathy to them in their recent bereavement.

Births

- BOSWELL.—To the wife of E. Boswell, of Gainsborough, on the 23rd July, a son—Terence.
 KENNY.—To the wife of the late J. Kenny, of Cork, on the 14th June, a son, still-born.
 MURPHY.—To the wife of D. Murphy, of Glasgow, on the 18th August, a daughter—Jeanie.
 SHREAD.—To the wife of J. Shread, of King's Lynn, on the 5th August, a daughter.
 WHEELER.—To the wife of E. C. Wheeler of Newbury, on the 5th August, a daughter.

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

- CHESHIRE.—To T. Cheshire, of Dunstable, whose mother has passed away.
 COLE.—To S. Cole, of Swansea, who lost his sister on the 24th July.
 FRAMPTON.—To H. V. Frampton, of Highams Park, whose father died on the 15th August.
 GLEW.—To Elmer Glew, of Victoria, Australia, and his wife, whose only son, John Rennie, died suddenly on the 25th August, aged 16 years.
 HUNT.—To D. Hunt, of Sunbury, whose wife passed away in the West Middlesex Hospital on 2nd September.
 JACKSON.—To the wife of L. Jackson, of Heswall, whose father died on 10th August, after a long illness.
 KING.—To G. M. King, of Leicester, whose wife died suddenly on the 5th September.
 LAVELL.—To J. Lavell, of Hereford, whose brother has died in Lancashire.
 MAKIN.—To D. Makin, of Willington Quay-on-Tyne, who has lost his elder brother.
 THOMAS.—To the wife of C. E. Thomas, of Cricklewood, whose mother passed away on the 22nd August.
 WILLIAMS.—To T. A. Williams, of Sheringham, whose sister in Liverpool has passed away.

New Zealanders' Reunion

Sir Ian has received the following letter from D. McPhee, of Auckland:—

DEAR SIR IAN,

The Reunion of New Zealand blinded soldiers held in Christchurch on the 11th, 12th and 13th May, arranged by the Trustees of the Commercial Travellers' and Warehousemen's Blinded Soldiers' Fund, in association with the New Zealand Institute for the Blind, was an outstanding success. We have to thank you for your cordial greetings and good wishes.

Blinded soldiers and their wives from all parts of the Dominion assembled in Christchurch, and found great pleasure in renewing old friendships.

We were sorry that Sir Clutha Mackenzie was unable to be with us, but he must have felt it a great honour to be present in the Abbey during the Coronation of His Majesty King George VI. It would be an experience that he and his son will never forget.

We all send our very best wishes to all our blinded comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Yours very truly,

D. MCPHEE.

“In Memory”

Private PAUL BARBER
(*North Staffordshire Regiment*)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death, on August 17th, of P. Barber, of Stoke.

Enlisting in 1916 Barber was discharged in 1919 but did not come under the care of St. Dunstan's until 1934. After a course in Braille, typewriting, and basket-making he made good use of his knowledge and continued with his basket-making until quite recently.

After a holiday at the Annexe, he had joined his wife at Brighton to have a little longer change, but he contracted a chill and complications supervening, he died, after only a few days' illness, in the Brighton Hospital. At the wish of his wife and relatives his body was taken home to his native town of Stoke-on-Trent for burial.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and children in their sudden loss.

Private WILLIAM GILKS
(*Labour Corps*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of one of our oldest St. Dunstaners, William Gilks, of Malvern, which took place on the 5th August. He was 77 years of age.

Gilks served with the Labour Corps from 1915 to 1919, but the condition of his sight did not warrant his admission to St. Dunstan's until 1921. Training was then out of the question on account of his age and health, and he led a quiet life in his home town. He had not been very fit, but his death, which took place in the local hospital, was unexpected.

In his youth, Gilks had been an artist and entertainer of considerable ability, and he was very well known locally to the older generation.

A fellow-St. Dunstaner, A. Hinton, of Malvern, attended the funeral, which took place at St. Matthias', Malvern Link. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Gilks was a widower but we extend our sincere sympathy to his family.

Private CHARLES T. OTWAY
(*Royal Field Artillery*)

It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of C. I. Otway.

After service in the Labour Corps and Royal Field Artillery, Otway could not come to St. Dunstan's for ordinary training owing to his very bad health, but he was admitted to the Star and Garter Home until about a year ago, and through the REVIEW, always took the greatest interest in the news of St. Dunstan's. He was able to learn Braille, and also managed to do string bags.

Otway endured his sufferings very patiently and cheerfully, being consoled by constant visits from his wife and Miss Morrah. During the last year of his life he was at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, where he passed away on 13th August. He was always very appreciative of the attention he received both at this Hospital and the Star and Garter Home.

The interment took place at Gap Road Cemetery, following a service at Holy Trinity Church. Among the floral tributes sent were those from the Mayor of Wimbledon (Alderman J. S. Holland Abbott), the British Legion, the Highways Department of the Wimbledon Borough Council, the Compton Sisterhood, and a wreath in the form of St. Dunstan's badge, from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

Private JOHN THOMAS
(*7th Somerset Regiment*)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of J. Thomas, of Llandow, Nr. Cowbridge.

Thomas was badly wounded at the Battle of the Somme, as a result of which both eyes had to be removed. He took up poultry keeping, and worked at this until his health began to fail a few years ago. During the past two years he has been more or less an invalid, and his death on the 12th instant was not altogether unexpected.

The funeral took place at Llandow church, and was attended by two of his St. Dunstan's friends, T. Bowen, of Llanelly, and A. Horrell, of Treorchy. There were many wreaths, including one from St. Dunstan's, which was carried by T. Bowen.

Thomas leaves a widow and three children to mourn his death, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Private FREDERICK WEST
(*Yorkshire Regiment*)

WE have with deepest regret to record the death of another St. Dunstaner, Frederick West, of North Shields, who served from 1915-18 in the Yorkshire Regiment. It was not until 1931 that West came under St. Dunstan's care, but his health was then so bad that he was only taught typewriting and wool rug work. He continued with the latter occupation up to within a short time of his death, which took place rather suddenly in the local hospital on the 17th August.

He was buried at Preston cemetery two days later, the British Legion being represented at the funeral. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the many tributes. West leaves a widow to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

Another Week-end at Brighton— and more Characters

IN dealing with more characters met with at Brighton during another pleasant and very enjoyable week-end, though I have been asked to do so, I could not refrain, nor let slip the opportunity of making a reference to the Memorial Service held at the Annexe on Saturday morning, July 31st, in memory of one whose character will ever remain vividly impressed upon the minds of all who came in contact with him. You will all know at once that I am referring to our dear old friend, Billy Tovell. The service was admirably conducted by the Rev. Raper, who struck a note such as—in his own words—Billy would have had him do. "Cut out the sob stuff," he said, "and let us think of him as one whose life was spent in an unselfish service for others—gladly given." Continuing, the speaker said he was forcibly reminded of the line in the opening hymn, "Run the straight race," His race had been a very straight one, and exceedingly well run, and undoubtedly, on the day of reckoning his reward would be "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

For myself, as I stood there with bowed head, I could not stay the flood of recollections which passed into my mind—of the old days in Cornwall Terrace, of morning exercises, and runs, etc., when Billy came down full of vigour and with the joy of his work in his heart, thorough in all he did, playing the game, and firmly but genially shepherding others to do the same. "Play the game," was his maxim through life. And I am sure that you will agree with me that when his book of toil is read there will be written large on the cover "This life was complete."

* * *

The air seemed to be permeated with propagandists this week-end. You had barely finished chatting to one of them, before you turned and walked into another. There was that sharp staccato-voiced Scotsman, though the number of his years are small he carries on his shoulders a head much older than his name implies. Oh, yes! Very, very paternal, he always greets me with "Hullo young——," and one must be extremely careful what one says to him, for he is a past master at turning your utterances with rapier-like

parry, much to your confusion and to the merriment of the company. An orator? Rather! He will talk for hours if he can get an ear, and will almost talk you out of any of your beliefs. Nevertheless, he is a fine chap and ever ready to give a helping hand.

Next came that diminutive Cockney, a one-time whacker of pigskin, who has a finger in most things, but cannot quite get them *all* in. This London sparrow follows a peculiar profession, you might call him ——! others call him something else! However, be that as it may, his collection of money boxes is quite unique, but up to date I am not sure whether he has attempted collecting children's yet. The profession must be contagious, for his daughter is collecting halfpennies for some good cause or other. He is a cheerful bloke, helpful at all times and has an idea all his own in colour schemes. I once saw him in a pair of grey flannels, a brown sports jacket, a bright blue shirt, knotted with a pink tie, and waist-coated with a multi-coloured pullover.

There is another character whom one always meets, not of the sheep, but of the shepherds—a charming personality, of a kind and gentle disposition, possessing a voice which at once captivates and soothes in a most delightful manner. The nearness of her presence never fails to shed an atmosphere of peace. Irish, of course, therefore irresistible, and in this case, the "Blarney Stone" has not been kissed.

"WEEK-END."

Irish St. Dunstaners Entertained

LIEUT.-COLONEL A. R. GORDON, D.S.O., M.P., and Mrs. Gordon of Delamont, Killyleagh, entertained a number of St. Dunstaners and ex-service men from Belfast at a garden party at Delamont on August 19th.

The party, which included Miss Wilson, who was blinded while on service during the war, was under Mr. Norman Macauley, Irish representative of St. Dunstan's. Colonel and Mrs. Gordon also invited several people from Killyleagh and district to meet the guests. The visitors were shown over the beautiful grounds and gardens and afterwards entertained at tea.

For Sale

Attractive pedigree Sealyham puppies. Price moderate.—Peach, Three Hills, Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,

DEAR SIR,

I have been thinking that it might be of interest to the deaf-blind men of St. Dunstan's to know that in this part of the country there is a home which has been specially prepared as a holiday or convalescent home for them. It is situated in a very nice part of the Wirral peninsula, a health resort that is becoming very popular. The home is very nicely fitted with every comfort and everything is done to make life as pleasant as possible. Braille and Moon literature is provided and visitors (escorts) go in regularly. The address is: "Fellowship House," Trinity Road, Hoylake, Cheshire. Any enquiry to the Secretary will be welcomed. I forgot to mention the fee is 25s. per week.

Yours sincerely,

J. C. OWEN.

Liverpool.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

May I, through your columns, again thank St. Dunstaners for their generous "offertory" of £3 at the Service held in camp at Stratford-on-Avon, which they asked might be used to assist would-be blind Rover Scout campers, who are assembled here this week. St. Dunstaners will be glad to know that their kind effort enabled two campers to attend who would not otherwise have been able to do so, and provided extra luxuries which go towards making life in camp so enjoyable.

The following little story may recall to them that Sunday morning Service in the St. Dunstan's camp. Yours as a St. Dunstaner,
Broadway, Worcs. "PADRE" GIBB.

The "Belle" of St. Dunstan

FRIENDS of St. Dunstan,—here we relate
A story—not everyone knows—
How Dunstan, the saintly prelate
Nipped a neat little girl by the nose.
Now the coat-of-arms of this prelate,
The anvil, the pincers and harp
Historians strictly narrate
Stand for music and master-of-art.
But you brighter sons of Adam
And you gay daughters of Eve
Will approve this story of Dunstan,
If only a legend it be.

Hard at work with iron and hammer
St. Dunstan rained his blows
Till his sweat began to lather
And heat-drops fell from his nose.
Too hot at work at his anvil
He turned for a breath of fresh air,
That was the chance for the devil
Who emerged from his still-hotter lair.
There—at the door of the smithy
The devil disguised so fair
As an early-English "Nippie"
With Anglo-Saxon hair.

Avaunt! avaunt! old Nick!
So Dunstan seized his tongs,
And forthwith did the trick
That righted a Bishop's wrongs.

Brief Notes

CONGRATULATIONS to W. J. Hopper, of Hull, who on July 27th was raised to the Third Degree in the Order of Buffaloes.

W. J. Berry, of Belfast, placed the wreath on the Cenotaph in the Garden of Remembrance, Belfast, when the Old Contemptibles' Association of Northern Ireland held their annual parade and reunion last month.

W. Newland, of Hever won third prize for the "best kept garden" in Hever Castle Estate. Lady Violet Astor called on Newland and his wife to see the garden, and to congratulate them.

W. J. Parnell, of Bridlington, won a prize in his pearly costume at the 1937 procession in Bridlington, and secured an engagement to play his accordion.

Young Donald Greaves, son of J. Greaves of Oldham, has only learned to swim during the last six months, yet he is already able to tow his father two lengths of the new swimming bath at Chadderton. Since Donald is only ten, and Greaves weighs seventeen stone, well done, Donald! Greaves finds him a great help in the water; incidentally, they both dive off the top platform.

Best wishes to G. (Jock) Brown, J. Knights, and W. Cowley, who have been found positions as telephone operators.

CONGRATULATIONS to E. S. Cass, of West Hartlepool, and his wife, whose silver wedding was on June 3rd; to W. Thomas, of Wakefield, and his wife, who celebrated their anniversary on the 1st July; to W. Armstrong, of Liverpool, and his wife, whose anniversary was on the 28th July; to L. Jackson, of Heston, and his wife, who celebrated theirs on the 11th August, and to A. A. H. Brown, of Reading, and his wife, whose anniversary will fall on the 17th of this month.

Holiday Apartments

Brighton

Full board-residence, 30s. per week. Children half price.—Mrs. Stracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Brighton.

Masseurs' Reunion

Fifty masseurs met at lunch in the Lounge at Headquarters on Saturday, July 24th.

Sir Ian Fraser presided, and the guests of honour were Mr. P. L. Way, Principal of the Massage School of the National Institute for the Blind, and Mr. E. L. G. McManus, who is Registrar of the National Register of Medical Auxiliary Services, a new body which has been formed with the approval and co-operation of the British Medical Association.

E. Toft, proposing the toast to Mr. Way, expressed the deep debt of gratitude which St. Dunstaners owed to him for his long years of valuable work on their behalf. The toast to Mr. McManus was proposed by W. C. Scott.

Young St. Dunstaners

JOAN, daughter of C. H. Cook, of Walthamstow, has passed the Cambridge Junior Examination, and has qualified for the Civil Service.

☆ ☆ ☆
J. Butler's daughter, May, took first prize at the recent cycle race in Waterford.

☆ ☆ ☆
The youngest daughter of W. Cox, of Balham, has won the Public Elementary School Scholarship, with honours. This entitled her to sit for an examination for entry to Christ's Hospital, which she has also passed.

☆ ☆ ☆
Hazel Woollen, daughter of A. J. Woollen, of Leyton, has won a scholarship for Leyton County High School.

☆ ☆ ☆
Eight years old, Mavis Hazel, daughter of A. T. Hazel, of Merton, has passed the Elementary Associated Board of Music Examination with honourable mention. Her sister, Brenda, shines at arithmetic.

☆ ☆ ☆
H. E. Payne's son, Arthur, has been awarded a special place in the Howard Gardens High School, Cardiff.

☆ ☆ ☆
Joan, daughter of our masseur, P. J. Sparkes, has been successful in passing her London General Schools Certificate.

☆ ☆ ☆
Birth.—At Bury St. Edmund's Hospital, on July 17th, to George and Margaret Osborne (*née* Smith) a daughter—Margaret Rose.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

IT is with the saddest thoughts that we attempt these Notes this month. The loss of Bill Tovell—overwhelming in its suddenness—is still terribly new to us. We can only hope to carry on as he would have wished, and ask for the support of all his sportsmen in this most difficult time. We at Headquarters will do our very best; we know that every member of the Club will do theirs.

Sports Meeting

The annual Sports Meeting to discuss the winter programme (sports, walks, socials, etc.) has been arranged to take place in the Lounge at Headquarters on Tuesday, October 5th, at 6.30 p.m.

Tuesday Night Dance

The first Dance of the season will be held in the Lounge on Tuesday, October 12th, at 8 p.m.

Brighton

The next meeting is on Wednesday, October 13th, at five o'clock. Programme: tea and dominoes.

It was with regret that we had to abandon the August meeting but Brighton sportsmen will understand that owing to Bill Tovell's sudden death, it was very difficult to arrange.

The Summer Meetings have been very enjoyable. The sports were as good as ever, and quite up to the usual standard. The points look a little different this year because they have been worked on the 3, 2, 1, basis. They read as follows:

Section B			Section A		
1st	C. Peach	24	1st	T. Rouse	22
2nd	T. Dickinson	22	2nd	S. Pike	19
3rd	W. Shaw	19	3rd	G. Fallowfield	18

Presentation to Miss Rayson

THE presentation to Miss Audrey Rayson from the men of Kent and Sussex will be made at the next Brighton Sports Meeting on Wednesday, October 13th. We shall be glad to see any subscribers who can conveniently come along.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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THE REVIEW AND ITS READERS

By THE EDITOR

IT is now just five years since, as part of my duties in charge of St. Dunstan's Publicity Department, I took over the Editorship of the REVIEW, and it seems a fitting moment to pause and take stock.

When I took over, the REVIEW had been considerably reduced from its old size and in the main since then it has consisted of only eight pages. Strange as it may seem this has usually proved quite large enough. Once or twice I have had criticisms that the magazine is so small that it is not possible to use contributions sent in by St. Dunstaners, but this is by no means the case. Actually on several occasions, in spite of the reduced size, we have had what is technically called a "copy scrape"—that is, we have had more space than stuff to put into it—with the result, that at the last minute, this department has had hastily to sit at its typewriter and grind out something—anything—to fill up the vacant space.

At the same time, it should be realized that this eight-page REVIEW is not a rigid quantity. On the other hand, it is perfectly fluid, as is proved by recent "special" issues such as the Jubilee, Funeral, and Coronation numbers, and also by two other numbers, not concerned with any special occasion, when the size went up to twelve pages. These numbers will be remembered for their admirable contributed articles. In this connection, I should like to emphasize that contributions from St. Dunstaners are always welcomed. I earnestly hope we shall have more of them. There are a few stalwarts who write for the REVIEW with some regularity, but, on the whole, very little matter is contributed in this way, and the result inevitably is that the magazine becomes a chronicle of bare facts. This is rather a pity because, now that St. Dunstaners are nearly all back in their homes again and widely separated, the REVIEW is one of the few links between them. Logically, it should be of even more importance than in the early days.

Anyhow, I should very much like to receive more contributions, for, after all, the magazine is run for you men and I should like to see you more thoroughly represented in it. As a slight encouragement it is proposed to give a small money prize each month for the best contribution received, but I should like readers' opinions on this matter and indeed on the matter of contributed articles as a whole. Letters to the Editor, too, are always welcome. They often start a discussion which is not only of interest to the men, but, through the Publicity Department, of importance to national newspapers and so to the whole British public. There are some who dislike publicity like this, but the fact must be borne in mind that the public should realize what we do, and for this, publicity of one kind and another is essential.

Roughly the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW contains Chairman's Notes, notices of those who have passed on during the preceding month, reports of events of the month, future arrangements, sports notes, letters, and occasional contributed articles. I should like readers' opinions of the relative importance of these terms. Personally, I think they are all essential. The Chairman's Notes I think are particularly valuable—though I am afraid there are none this month.

The Chairman is, however, one of our most regular contributors, and difficult as it is, we hope he will continue to give us his usual notes.

I always welcome criticism. And incidentally I don't mind harsh criticism. I was on a London daily newspaper for too many years to be particularly thin-skinned in this direction. I was also a full private in France for three years, and freely criticized by all my superiors.

So much for the REVIEW. Now what of its readers? It is perhaps inevitable that there should not be the same interest in the magazine as there was twenty years ago when you were mostly all together and interested in St. Dunstan's and very little else *than* St. Dunstan's. Since then interests have broadened. There is home life and business life and the "social whirl," so that it is not to be wondered at if the REVIEW is not so avidly sought after and pursued as it used to be. In addition, of course, there are two other great factors—the wireless and the talking book. When the REVIEW was started, broadcasting was still in the air—although not literally as it is now. Talking books, of course, were unthought of. The gramophone was the only mechanical means of sound reproduction.

There was time then to have the REVIEW read to you, and wives, probably too, had more time to do it then, before the joys of family life came along to take first place in importance. Now, with talking books, broadcasts all day, and talking films as well, there is precious little time to devote to things like the REVIEW, and, anyhow, who would stop listening to someone like Richard Tauber to have dreary stuff like this article read aloud to them.

In spite of all this, I still think that ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW has its own particular niche in the lives of St. Dunstaners, and it is for that reason that I would like the paper to be brought out according to your own likes and dislikes. That is why I am inviting criticism both CONstructive and DEstructive. One thing, in addition to the others I have already mentioned that I should like your opinion on, is the subject of COMPETITIONS. We have tried a few with small prizes from time to time but on the whole the response has not been too encouraging, and I would like suggestions, therefore, for a series of competitions in the future. I have puzzled my brains until they ache, with no result. Will anybody help me with suggestions?

Reverting to talking books, perhaps a solution of one problem may be to produce in the very dim and distant future the REVIEW as a talking book. It would save a lot of trouble, if, instead of having to have the thing read over to you, it could be spoken to you mechanically. One side of a record, or part of it, might be devoted to the current REVIEW and the remainder to real literature. One can imagine the terrible shock it would be when one of you put on a record and leaned back to hear a chunk of the latest "thriller" only to find that the wrong side was uppermost and to be informed that "Little Bessie Blimp, daughter of a St. Dunstaner, has passed with honours her examination in Coloured Wool Work."

G. R.

St. Dunstaner's Aeroplane Flight

G. W. H. WRIGHT, of Norwich, was a guest of the Norwich Branch of the Comrades of the Royal Air Force on September 23rd when the Branch, with members of the Norfolk and Norwich Aero Club, entertained a number of blind people at Mousehold Aerodrome.

After tea at the Aero Club, Wright was introduced to Sir Harry Lauder, who spent an hour chatting with the guests. At a quarter to six, it was Wright's turn to take

his trip in the air, but before the Gypsy machines took off, all parts were explained to the guests by Squadron Leader H. G. Berry. Then Wright climbed in and they were off. "I thoroughly enjoyed the trip," he writes. "No feelings of sickness, just a delightful sensation of floating through space."

Important

The attention of St. Dunstaners is drawn to the two notices at the end of the back page.

Found—A Trainee Badge

We have received through the police a St. Dunstan's trainee badge which was found near Richmond Road, Bradford. If any St. Dunstaner in that neighbourhood has lost this little souvenir of his training days, we shall be glad to send it on to him.

News from South Africa

E. DENNY and his wife, who have been on a visit to this country, have now returned to Pretoria. Denny writes as follows:—

"On arrival at Cape Town, Mrs. Denny and I were met by Mrs. Chadwick Bates, and she was very interested to hear all that we had to tell her about our stay in England and to receive the innumerable messages which we had been asked to convey to her.

"The Pretoria Agricultural Show was opened by our Governor-General, His Excellency Sir Patrick Duncan, G.C.M.G., on 31st August, and the St. Dunstan's Stand was visited by many thousands of visitors. Articles made by our men were exhibited at the stand, and Sattary, from Cape Town, was very busy demonstrating the art of coir mat making whilst Mrs. Sattary was kept busy taking orders. Mesdames Veale, Battle, and O'Brien, President and Members of the Pretoria After-Care Committee, were in attendance at the stand throughout the show, which lasted three days. On the first day of the show, Her Excellency Lady Patrick Duncan visited our stand and was much interested in everything she saw. The opportunity was taken to present Lady Duncan with a St. Dunstan's Brooch, made in South Africa from South African gold, mined in Johannesburg. The presentation was made by Owen of Johannesburg, and there were also present Kirstein, also of Johannesburg, Sattary of Cape Town, and myself."

Replying to a speech by Denny, Lady Duncan expressed her wish that on some future occasion, he would tell her all about his visit to England and his experiences at St. Dunstan's.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to H. Wilkins, of Gravesend, and his wife, who celebrated

their silver wedding anniversary on September 28th.

Together during the War

NOW AT ST. DUNSTAN'S TOGETHER

R. EDWARDS, of Twickenham, and T. Crowley, of Cork, who were in the same Lewis gun team in France during the War, have just met again at Brighton, although neither knew the other was a St. Dunstaner.

They were in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, and Edwards was No. 1 on the gun and Crowley No. 2. On August 24th, 1918, as they were making their way down a sunken road, Crowley was shot in the face. Edwards had just time to speak to him before he was taken away by stretcher bearers. Two days afterwards, he himself was also blinded.

Edwards thought that Crowley had died, and neither had seen or heard anything of the other since leaving France until that day at Brighton.

Prizes for Coincidences

If any other St. Dunstaners have interesting stories of war-time coincidences, we shall be very glad to have them. Prizes of 10s. will be awarded to the senders of the two best stories published. The last date for receiving entries is Monday, November 8th. Dates and places should be mentioned where possible.

To R.A.O.B. Members of St. Dunstan's

ON Monday, 27th September, at the King Edward Lodge, held at the King's Arms, Whit Lane, Pendleton, near Manchester, the final part of an interesting ceremony was performed. This was the presentation to Bro. James Lever of his Certified Primo Jewel.

It has been most unfortunate that his presentation has been so long delayed, but as most of your members will remember, this brother was taken very seriously ill and was laid up at a local hospital for about twelve months. However, at the first opportunity, the raising ceremony took place just prior to his leaving convalescent to St. Dunstan's at Brighton.

In the presence of a large assembly of brethren, the presentation was made by Bro. E. Barlow, K.C.M., who most members have met at Brighton.

St. Dunstaner's Success as Cattle Breeder

J. T. SCRYMGEOUR, of Queensland, Australia, has added yet another trophy to his long list of successes as a cattle breeder. This time it was at the Royal National Show, Brisbane, and was awarded for the champion cow. Lord Gowrie, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, congratulated Scrymgeour personally on his continued success. The inter-State competition at these shows is tremendously keen, and in Australia to-day, the breeding of stud stock entails the most strenuous work.

This year Scrymgeour had the honour of being appointed State Delegate of the Queensland Clydesdale Horse Society at the Federal Meeting in Melbourne.

"Mrs. Scrymgeour and the girls are well—the latter fast growing up," writes Scrymgeour. "My youngest, Patricia, aged 12, has won riding competitions all over the State, and is considered one of the picked junior equestriennes in Queensland—emphasizing the fact that heredity is a more potent factor than development! My sincerest regards and best wishes to all St. Dunstaners."

St. Dunstaners in the News

THERE was a first-rate article in the *Guildford City Outlook* about F. G. Braithwaite, of Guildford, who celebrated the 21st anniversary of the start of his business on September 21st. A photograph of Braithwaite, and another of his shop, also appeared.

☆ ☆ ☆

A long article in the *Rushden Echo* described A. J. Holland's success as a gardener. "Before the war," it said, "he was one of the finest gardeners in the country, as well as being well known as a judge." After he had decided to revert to his old job, Holland said, "I found I had to start learning all over again, which seemed strange, but I stuck at it." Now he boasts one of the finest vegetable and flower gardens in the district. Stocks, asters, and chrysanthemums are his speciality in the floral line—it was with chrysanthemums that he won so many prizes before the war. Last year he was producing beans at twelve to the pound, and gathered twelve cwt. of tomatoes.

A Bouquet from "Stainless Stephen"

"SOME time ago I took Les Allen and Shis Canadian Bachelors to St. Dunstan's Annexe, and we gave a show.

"Meeting these boys at St. Dunstan's is a grand experience. They keep cheerful and unembittered when they could so easily be otherwise, and make you feel how lucky you were to emerge from the 1914-18 business comparatively unscathed.

"These boys give you a different perspective on life, teaching you never to be dissatisfied with your lot, even when the lot's a little, to maintain a philosophic sense of humour."

From an article in the *Radio Pictorial*.

Presentation to a St. Dunstaner

A SURPRISE request to J. H. Mason, of Bognor Regis, to attend a certain rehearsal of the Bognor Legion Band, was followed by another surprise when, in the presence of members and other Legionnaires, Mason was made the recipient of a double gold albert with suitably inscribed medal.

In making the presentation, the Bandmaster, Mr. C. Woollard, referred to our St. Dunstaner's indefatigable efforts as Chairman and Organizing Secretary of the Band Fund, and to the fact that he had undertaken the responsibility of the band from the start. Mr. Mercer, the Band librarian, spoke in similar terms.

Mr. Mason, in thanking them, said he believed in encouraging local talent, adding that in everything he had done he had had the valuable assistance of officials and members of the British Legion, and of many well-known Bognor residents. "It is due to the generosity of all these people that my humble efforts were so far successful," he said.

Mason is a shopkeeper in Bognor, who has taken a great interest in local affairs, and is extremely well known in the town.

Prizewinners

C. Pike, of Blackpool, and his wife, were awarded first prize in the Corporation's competition for the best illuminated premises (small boarding establishment class).

Apartments

Brighton

Full board-residence, 30s. per week. Children half price.—Mrs. Tracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Brighton.

Gone to Earth

BY A CORRESPONDENT

AT the Club the other day I was chatting of this and that with a comparative stranger when he, very foolishly, admitted that he was a wireless expert. I neighed passionately, flung back my ears, and pawed the ground with a certain amount of frenzy, for I had wanted to meet such a one for many days. He looked a trifle alarmed at these manifestations of my form, and who could blame him? He could tell at once that I was out to tap a little spot of expert knowledge from his hidden reserves.

"Supposing," I asked, "that, right in the middle of the time devoted to programmes, every single set in the land, by some miracle, method, or madness, was switched off at the same time. What would happen then?"

He looked a trifle dazed.

I altered my wavelength and tuned in to a frown. I never *have* trusted experts although, of course, I am never averse from trying to cadge expert information out of them free of charge. Probably this was a man of straw, or even of straws in the hair, like the rest of them.

Even so, he ought to have been able to answer an easy question like that one. I must admit that it had baffled me ever since I had thought of it days before, during the silent watches and noisy clocks of the night, but then I am no expert. Pert or even impert, perhaps, but never ex. This fellow, on the other hand, had admitted that he was on pretty good terms with the ether.

So I repeated my question, breaking the words up into their syllables, in case he had not caught me aright the first time.

"Well," he said at last, in a distinctly unethereal way, "I should imagine that if all the sets were turned off, well—er—nothing would happen at all."

"Surely something would happen," I expostulated. "It stands to reason. One moment all the programmes are rushing about all over the place in one great blare of noise, finding loud speakers to come safely out of (even if it does mean ending a sentence with a preposition), and the next moment every set is shut off and the poor noises have no loud speakers from which to emerge. It is as though the door

were shut on them. They just lit up against the closed sets with a dismal squelching noise, like an Oxford accent gone Billingsgate, and cannot get any further. Surely something must happen then."

My expert closed his eyes as though in pain, but I was not going to be put off like that.

"Come," I said, sternly, "put yourself in the position of a piece of wireless noise. There you are in the studio just emerging from a trombone, an American speaker's nose, or a crooning tenor's shoes. With a whoop of joy you see the mike and make a dash for it. So far, so good. You are waiting to be transmitted, but when you get to the other end you find that there is nowhere to be transmitted to. Every set is shut against you. It is Closing Time in the atmosphere. If only *one* set were switched on, all would be well, but there is not one."

"But," said the expert weakly, "the thing's impossible."

"They all said the General Strike was impossible," I answered haughtily, "And yet it happened. So could this General Switch Off or General Strike of Listeners. Announce, for example, that Sir Stafford Cripps is going to do a bit of reminiscing on 'Monarchs I have Known,' and everyone would switch off automatically."

"What fun," said the expert, becoming almost human, "if he talked to himself for an hour."

"He has been doing it for years, but that is not the point. It would not be nearly such fun for the words he had talked. They would be careering about all over the world in a simply frightful state of mind. Surely something would happen with all this uncontrolled energy dashing about the ether. Enlighten me."

He gave me a look as though he would have liked not only to enlighten me, but to enthrone me as well.

"You see," I went on mercilessly, "what with electricity bubbling and announcers babbling and nowhere for all this bubble and squeak to go to—surely something would go bust in the sky?"

"Yes," he said shaking his head.

That infuriated me. He was in two minds with but a single word.

"Where do the noises go to?" I asked, pressing him shrewdly and I fear a trifle

shrewishly as well. "If they cannot emerge from loud speakers, do they go back to the transmitters and hit the people who uttered them a shrewd blow in the face?"

He looked at me with a hunted expression.

"Or," I went on remorselessly, "do the noises finally earth themselves and blight half the crops in the country?"

There was still no sound from my expert.

"Or is there such a violent electrical disturbance that the whole world goes up in flames with a loud cry of 'Goooooooood Night Everybody'?"

He gave a desperate look at the door.

"Or do the noises get fed up with such a hostile reception from this world that they go scurrying off to some other planet, shaking our very ether from the vowels of their words?"

But answer came there none.

There had been a General Switch Off of my listener. He had transmitted himself out of the Club and earthed himself in a taxi.

Brief Notes

H. Saunders, of Tottenham, was at the first match of the season of the 'Spurs as usual—a fact which the *Sunday Pictorial* noted. Saunders has not missed a single home match of the team since 1919.

☆ ☆ ☆

G. F. Smith, of Stoughton, spent his holiday this year at Ramsgate. They went by steamer to Chatham for the Naval Review. Coming back the engines broke down, and they were out to sea for three hours while they were repaired. They arrived in Ramsgate at midnight!

☆ ☆ ☆

J. Hughes, of Sanderstead, won first prize for roses at the Selsdon Horticultural Show, held on 25th September. The roses he submitted were "Madame Butterfly" and "Charles P. Killan." The judges made special mention of the exceptionally good colour of the roses for the time of the year.

☆ ☆ ☆

G. James, of Barrow-on-Soar, gained third prize at a recent Show for an exhibit of onions grown by himself.

Young St. Dunstaners

Avis, daughter of A. Peckham, of Wembley, has won a scholarship to Harrow County School. She has also gained another certificate for swimming—this time for 50 yards.

☆ ☆ ☆

Peter, the son of R. Boyter, of Pittenweem, Fife, has passed his examination to enter Wade Academy. He and his sister Sheila have also been winning prizes at sports.

☆ ☆ ☆

William Neville Moore, son of our St. Dunstaner at Southport, has enlisted in the Scots Guards as drummer. He is not yet sixteen but he is already six feet tall. While at school (he won his scholarship there) he had gained every possible certificate for swimming.

☆ ☆ ☆

Esther Thompson, daughter of C. F. Thompson, of Carshalton, has gained her General Schools Certificate.

☆ ☆ ☆

John Perrett, aged 15, the son of H. A. Perrett, of Devizes, has joined H.M.S. *St. Vincent* at Gosport.

☆ ☆ ☆

Violet, daughter of E. Roberts, of Abergelly, has passed, with distinction, a further examination in singing in the Lower Grade, Royal School of Music.

☆ ☆ ☆

Elizabeth McLoughlin, daughter of D. J. McLoughlin, of Dublin, has secured a first class pass in typewriting in connection with the Department of Education Examinations in Dublin.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pat, daughter of G. Jolly, of Ipswich, has passed Divisions III and IV of the Royal Drawing Society's examination, with honours in Division III.

☆ ☆ ☆

Joyce Davies, daughter of J. Davies, of Moston, Manchester, has won a scholarship to Harpurhey High School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Harold Coussins, son of our telephonist, L. Coussins, of Glasgow, was selected to swim for his Club against England, and won. He now holds four medals. He has won the Cup for 100 yards breast stroke in the Senior Competition, competing as a junior, and is now being specially trained to go over to Palestine to take part in the Olympic Games, representing Scotland.

Death of Mr. Thomson Brown

ST. DUNSTANERS everywhere, and in particular St. Dunstan's poultry-farmers, will hear, with the deepest regret, of the sudden death, on 8th September, of Mr. J. Thomson Brown. Mr. Thomson Brown retired from St. Dunstan's earlier in the year, and when he came to Headquarters on 18th June to receive his presentations, it was everyone's hope that he had many years before him in which to enjoy his well-earned retirement.

The funeral took place on 11th September at Wimborne Road Cemetery, Bournemouth, and was attended by Mr. Ottaway from Headquarters, Captain F. Ogg, a St. Dunstan's officer, and E. H. Carpenter, of King's Langley, representing our poultry-farmers. Mr. C. S. Walden and Miss Legate, who had worked with Mr. Thomson Brown for so many years, were also present.

Among the many wreaths were those from the officers and men of St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstan's Staff.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mrs. Thomson Brown wishes to thank, through the REVIEW, all those friends who sent kind expressions of sympathy to her in her great bereavement.

Original "St. Dunstan's" now "Winfield"

THE old house on the Outer Circle of Regent's Park, known to all of us as the original "St. Dunstan's," has a new name.

The building was purchased a year or so ago by the Count and Countess Haugwitz-Reventlow, who had it demolished in order that a new house might be built on the site. This is now nearing completion.

For many years now, the fact that there have been two places named St. Dunstan's in Regent's Park has caused much confusion, and when Sir Ian Fraser suggested to the Count and Countess that since, with the razing to the ground of the old building, the last link with the name of St. Dunstan's was ended, they graciously assented to the idea that the new building should have a new name.

After some consideration, "Winfield" was chosen. It is one of the names of the Countess's grandfather.

Ex-World Swimming Champion's Message to St. Dunstaners

WHILE H. Crabtree was on holiday, he received an invitation from his old Club, the Bacup Amateur Swimming Club, to give an exhibition swim at their Gala on 11th September. Crabtree, who was at one time ex-Club and Youths' Champion, and a member of the squadron team, had a great reception.

His old trainer was David Billington, ex-world's champion, and Crabtree met him again at the Gala for the first time in thirty years.

Mr. Billington was most interested to hear about St. Dunstan's swimmers, and sent his best wishes to all St. Dunstaners. He mentioned that when he was in Canada, he knew a blind man who would go down regularly to the lake for a swim. His friends had a launch to which they had attached a bell, and in this way he was able to get his bearings.

Births

BRADFORD.—To the wife of E. Bradford, of Sheffield, on September 23rd, a daughter.

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

ANKER.—To the wife of M. O. Anker, of Ealing, who lost her father on October 5th.

ASHMORE.—To the wife of J. Ashmore, of Loughborough, whose mother died after a short illness, on September 9th.

BURTENSHAW.—To W. A. Burtenshaw, of Wimborne, whose mother passed away on September 17th at the age of 78.

MAKIN.—To D. Makin, of Willington-Quay-on-Tyne, who has suffered a further bereavement by the death of his mother on September 7th.

PEELING.—To J. Peeling, of Manchester, whose wife passed away on Sunday, September 26th.

RIDDELL.—To the wife of R. Riddell, of Jedburgh whose mother died on October 5th.

SKELLY.—To T. E. Skelly, of Batley, whose brother-in-law has died in tragic circumstances. He was a Bradford man, and was visiting London for the National Band Festival at Alexandra Palace. He was knocked down by a trolley bus at Shepherd's Bush, and was taken to hospital where he died.

Personal

Mrs. Otway and family wish to thank, through the REVIEW, all those friends who sent kind expressions of sympathy to them in their recent bereavement.

reading again with the Talking Book, have come to enjoy more serious works. There is a good demand for biographies, travel books and some of the classic novels. Write for particulars to Horace Kerr at Headquarters. He will tell you what is in the Library and the price of the machines.

Some have asked me, "Why don't you publish the very latest novels the moment they come out?" Our reason for not doing so is a very good one. I make the guess, and I think it will prove right, that out of a hundred novels published this Christmas not more than ten will be remembered next March, and probably not more than two will be spoken of in a year's time. A book has to prove itself before it is worth recording. That is why we wait a year or two and then choose the best-sellers. But here and there it is possible to pick a book which you can be almost certain will be a good one, and we have done this in the case of *Great Contemporaries*, by Winston Churchill. This was published about November 1st, for the general public, and by the beginning of December it will have actually been recorded and will be in our Library. This is a fine book, and I am sure many will find it interesting. A note as to the latest additions will be found on page 5.

Welcome Suggestions

My friend, Fallowfield, who was deafened as well as blinded, writes me a number of suggestions. Some are more interesting to deaf St. Dunstaners than to others, but some are of general application. I think all St. Dunstaners will agree that our organization ought to go out of its way to do what is possible to help our deafened comrades.

Fallowfield asks if instructions can be written in braille about the routine which will be observed at the new Brighton Home, and if a description of the new Home itself, and of the surroundings, can be prepared in braille. This could and will be done, and it will no doubt be of special interest to deaf St. Dunstaners who will then be able quickly to pick up information as to what is going on.

He asks, also, for a good braille library. We shall certainly see to this. And another of his points is that the waste-paper baskets, mats and trays which are used in the Home should not only be made by St. Dunstaners but should be of the very best. It seems that sometimes we have used articles made in the course of training at the Brighton Home. I can understand the reason for this, but I agree with Fallowfield that the goods we use should be the best so that they are a good advertisement to all who come.

I am very glad to have suggestions like these. We will certainly do our best to see that the new Home is in every respect as agreeable as it can be for all St. Dunstaners.

IAN FRASER.

Editor's Note

THE Editor's appeal in last month's REVIEW has met with a good response.

A number of interesting suggestions have been made, all of which will receive consideration.

Many St. Dunstaners, too, have answered it in a practical way by sending in contributions, and this twelve-page number is the result. Several articles have been unavoidably left over, but their authors may rest assured that they have not been forgotten.

It was mentioned last week that a small money prize will be awarded for the best contribution received each month. This will come into effect next month, and articles used this month will be considered then. The "coincidences" competition, of course, is quite apart from the "best contribution" contest.

From Sister Boyd Rochfort

MY DEAR BOYS,

You have all been so kind in past years remembering me with your nice cards and calendars at Christmas that I want to ask you if, instead of exchanging our greetings in this way, I may accept yours now, and send mine to you through the REVIEW.

My time being rather limited, I find it is difficult to send or acknowledge the many cards we have exchanged in past years—(latterly I have received over seven hundred!)—but I want you to know that my thoughts and good wishes will be with you *all*, just the same as always.

Your friend,
SISTER BOYD ROCHFORD.

*St. Dunstan's
Brighton.*

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

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44



Brighton News

NOVEMBER 5th marked yet another milestone in the long and happy association existing between the local Transport Organizations and the men of St. Dunstan's. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Cannon, who was supported by many of our old friends, one hundred and forty-four St. Dunstaners sat down to dinner in the Aquarium Restaurant.

These gatherings are always very jolly affairs, and the boys did good justice to the excellent menu provided. The speeches were of a warm and cordial nature, and after toasting "His Majesty the King" the Chairman then proposed a toast to the Men of St. Dunstan's, and said how very pleased he was to welcome us on behalf of our hosts.

In responding to the Chairman's welcome, Mr. Jock Boyd expressed a very cordial vote of thanks.

Their Worships the Mayors of Brighton and Hove also paid a warm tribute to all concerned for this happy evening.

Mr. Mark Richards, the moving spirit behind these activities, was greeted with loud applause. He said how very much to heart he and his comrades had the interests of St. Dunstan's.

As Mr. Richards was concluding his remarks, our Chairman, Sir Ian Fraser, arrived, accompanied by his daughter.

Sir Ian thanked our hosts for entertaining us, and also for their ever ready help when travelling on the buses.

After dinner we danced to the strains of Mr. Cheeseman's Band, who always give their services on these occasions, until 11.30 p.m. with one short interval for the drawing of Lucky Numbers.

V.C.

★ ★ ★

H. Manning, at the London Hospital, was taking an incoming call the other day. The voice seemed familiar and he asked, "Isn't that Mrs. Benjamin?" The caller replied that she was. It was Mrs. Benjamin, a frequent visitor to the old House, and Manning had recognized her voice, although it was eighteen years since he had spoken to her.

Mrs. Benjamin was delighted to hear that she was talking to Manning, and sent him a box of cigarettes to celebrate the occasion.

Gardening Notes

To destroy slugs, crush one Meta tablet to powder and mix it with sufficient bran to fill an ordinary shoe box. The powder should be well mixed with the bran, and a little sprinkled over the garden in the evening.

Meta tablets can be obtained from chemists at 6d. per packet.

★ ★ ★

From the fourteen pounds of Queen Mary potatoes which he has received from Headquarters, D. Maclean of Reading has dug 188 pounds of ware and about twenty pounds of small ones. Can anyone beat this?

Armistice Dance

THE Armistice Dance was held at the Portman Rooms on November 9th.

It was a jolly informal affair, and, in fact, was more in the nature of a reunion, for it was noticeable this year that the majority of St. Dunstaners were content to leave the actual dancing to the younger generation while they got together to talk over old times. For those who wanted to dance, however, our own Band was there to give its usual first-rate programme of music.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser, who was accompanied by Lady Fraser and Miss Jean Fraser, welcomed the guests. He expressed everyone's deep regret that Matron Thellusson was unable to be with them—the first Armistice Dance she had ever missed. They sent her best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Sir Ian then introduced to St. Dunstaners Mr. J. H. Dawkins, who had been appointed to fill Corpl. Major Tovell's place, and who was there that night in his official capacity for the first time.

Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., our Honorary Treasurer, and Colonel Eric Ball who is Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee and Senior Member of St. Dunstan's Executive Council, were popular guests, and Sir Neville's humorous speech of thanks later drew roars of appreciation.

Colonel Ball called for three cheers for Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, and these were given with enthusiasm.

And then it was 11.30 and "Auld Lang Syne." Another Armistice Dance had come to an end.

St. Dunstaner Meets the King and Queen

ON October 20th the King and Queen, in the course of their Yorkshire tour, visited the Ministry of Pensions Hospital in Leeds. Disabled ex-servicemen were lined up in the recreation hall to receive them, and the first man to whom Their Majesties spoke was our St. Dunstaner, G. H. Heeley, of Wakefield, who is a shorthand typist at the Ministry.

Here is Heeley's own story.

"For some time past it has been known that the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Chapel Allerton, Leeds, was to be visited by Royalty on October 20th, but beyond the possibility of cheering, along with other members of the Area Staff, somewhere near to the Hospital, I had not anticipated anything further. However, at 3.30 p.m. on that day, I was warned, together with four members of the staff, to report in the Chief's room, and it was then I heard that we were to represent the Area Office in the main corridor of the hospital.

"Promptly at 5.40 p.m. the Royal Party arrived, and soon they were walking down the corridor. First of all the Queen stopped to have a word with one of the sisters, and the King moved along to have a word with the dispenser. It was then I received a thrill. The Queen had resumed her place beside the King and they were approaching the spot where I was standing. The whole party came to a halt and I heard the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital mention my name and give to someone the information that I was blind, the result of a bullet, and that I was now engaged in the Area Office as a typist. The Medical Superintendent came forward and said to me that the King would like to shake hands with me. I heard his Majesty say, 'A bullet?' Then he put forward his hand and said, 'How do you do? I am pleased to meet you.' I was proud to return the greeting and the grip. The King then asked me, 'How long have you been in the Service?' I told him eighteen years, and he asked, 'How do you like the work?' I replied that I liked it very much. At this point the King turned to the Queen and told her how I had been wounded. For the moment I

think the Queen was a little affected. Then Her Majesty came forward, put her hand into mine, and said, 'How do you do? I am pleased to meet you.'"

About a fortnight before the visit of the King and Queen, the Minister of Pensions, Mr. H. Ramsbotham, M.P., visited the Area Office where Heeley works, and was greatly interested in our St. Dunstaner. A photograph of the Minister chatting to Heeley appeared in the *Daily Sketch*.

Another Presentation

From the *News Chronicle*, October 20th:

"When Mr. F. W. Thompson, blind ex-Serviceman, was presented to the Duke and Duchess (of Gloucester) at Tavistock yesterday, he fulfilled his ambition to shake hands with every member of the Royal Family.

"Mr. Thompson, who served in four wars, was with General Gordon in the Sudan, and on return was presented to Queen Victoria. He was blinded in the Great War."

Thompson sends us the local Press reports of the Royal visit and adds: "Perhaps I shall be meeting the King when he comes to Tavistock on December 1st."

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

'How many children belong doubly to St. Dunstan's, i.e. have both parents members of that organization? As one who was a humble member of the staff nearly twenty years ago, I have tried to keep in touch with some of these, and have three children of my own. Of course our Chairman and his wife head this list with one daughter.

How could we find out how many more there are? And perhaps some day these young people might meet at Headquarters before they themselves start marrying, and so complicating the matter too much.

SHEELA THOMPSON,
wife of C. F. THOMPSON,
Carshalton.

A CORRECTION

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

In last month's REVIEW you stated that my son, Harold Coussins, is to swim for Scotland in the Olympic Games in Palestine. Will you please correct this statement?

He is being trained with a view to being sent to Palestine to swim at the Jewish Macciebie Games, and when he represented Scotland against England, England beat Scotland.

L. R. COUSSINS, Glasgow.

Talking Books

HERE is a further list of books which are being added to the Library.

The Fellowship of the Frog, by Edgar Wallace.

Read by A. E. McDonald.

A thriller.

The Cask, by Freeman Wills Croft.

Read by A. E. McDonald.

A thriller.

The Solange Stories, by F. Tennyson Jesse.

Read by Faith Loring.

Short detective stories.

Elizabeth and Her German Garden, by "Elizabeth."

Read by Faith Loring.

The humorous reflections, in diary form, of an Englishwoman married to a German.

Red Wagon, by Lady Eleanor Smith.

Read by Lionel Gamlin.

A story of life with a travelling circus.

Green Gates, by R. C. Sherriff.

Read by Eric Gillett.

The experiences of a retired City man and his wife in their search for happiness.

The Old Wives Tale, by Arnold Bennett.

Read by Eric Gillett.

A story of the lives of two women of the Potteries, giving a remarkably fine picture of Paris during the Siege. Rather a long book, but well worth reading—it is considered generally to be Arnold Bennett's greatest novel.

The Valleys of the Assassins, by Freya Stark.

Read by Jessie Hennel.

A woman's travels in Persia.

Pride and Prejudice, by Jane Austin.

Read by Doris Pemberton.

A charming study of manners in the early nineteenth century. H.V.K.

★ ★ ★

From the *Gloucester Citizen*, October 14th:

"Compliments were paid last night to Mr. H. Nelson—a blind ex-Serviceman—for the way in which he has carried out the duties of hon. secretary of the Lea and District branch of the British Legion. The occasion was the annual meeting, held at the Crown Inn, Aston Ingham. Mr. Nelson's report was read by the Chairman. It showed that the branch had a most successful year, every member having done his bit to make it efficient."

Young St. Dunstaners

Elsie, daughter of W. Muir, of North Gosforth, has secured honours in the Elementary Music Examination. Only five pupils in the country secured such honours.

★ ★ ★

The son of H. Hurst, of Great Longstone, won numerous prizes at the Flower Show for flowers and vegetables, and only just missed winning the Cup.

★ ★ ★

Joan Rees, daughter of G. Rees, of Thornton Heath, has passed the London General School Examination with matriculation.

★ ★ ★

Margaret Nash, the daughter of the late J. Nash, of Aylesbury, has gained the Oxford School Certificate.

★ ★ ★

Ethel, the daughter of Vere Jones, of Northwich, although only fourteen and a half years of age, has passed three examinations in shorthand and type-writing.

★ ★ ★

Olive, the daughter of J. Roughley, of Northwich, was married on October 2nd.

★ ★ ★

Bernard Inman, the eldest son of B. Inman, of Sheffield, has won third prize in the Sheffield Evening Schools Examination in Practical Mathematics.

★ ★ ★

Eric, the son of F. Stratton, of Shirebrook, has passed the preliminary examination which enables him to sit later for his qualifying examination as a chemist.

★ ★ ★

Arthur Price, who is nearly 15, and son of A. Price of Pontypool, has gone to the Prince of Wales Sea Training Hostel, Limehouse.

★ ★ ★

Frances, the daughter of F. P. Best, of Birmingham, has obtained her School Certificate with Matriculation credits.

National Laying Test

WE were late arrivals at the Annual Dinner arranged by the National Laying Test and the N.U.P.S., at the Great Central Hotel, on October 21st, for fog on the outskirts of London delayed us.

Once there, however, we were soon at home, for the St. Dunstan's competitors were grouped at two adjoining tables. Unfortunately, the absence of one competitor and escort, and one technical visitor made our party incomplete. The absentees were greatly missed, and we were all sorry that, for various reasons, they could not be present.

The evening was a great success. After the Loyal toast we enjoyed an amusing entertainer, and this was followed by the real business of the evening—the presentation of the prizes.

The prize-winners and prizes in the St. Dunstan's section were :

Hill, R. E.

St. Dunstan's Chal. Cup First position
Jacobs & Spearman Challenge Cup ... Best individual bird
Gold Medal
Silver Winter Medal
Cash Prize £7
Cash Prize £2. 2s. ... Best pen White Wyandottes
Canteen Cutlery ... Best individual bird

Holmes, P.

Silver Medal ... Second position
Cash Prize £5
Cash Prize £1. 1s. ... Fourth position
5 cwt. Layers' Mash ... Best pen of R.I.R.s

Smith, W. Alan

Bronze Medal ... Third position
Cash Prize £2

McLaren, D.

Cash Prize £3 ... For birds typical of their breed, and all alive at end of Test

Jackson, G. C.

Cash Prize £2 Do.

Hammett, H. A.

Cash Prize £4. 4s. ... Best pen of White Leghorns

Pink, A.

1 cwt. Chick Feed ... Best pen not receiving any other award

The new Trials have already started at Milford. We have not quite so many entries this year as last, but the quality of the birds sent in is very good.

It will be interesting to watch these pens during the year, and especially interesting to note the progress of the No. 1 bird in each pen. These birds are competing for a special award which will be given to the best No. 1 bird, irrespective of the success of the remaining birds in the pen. It is a severe test of St. Dunstan's ability in selecting the best bird of the six they submit, and should lead to much friendly rivalry.

Our St. Dunstan's competitors have faith in their entries. "I am going to be here (at the Dinner) next year," I was informed by one successful competitor, and his attitude is typical of all.

I know that every competitor cannot win, but it is the right spirit; a spirit that persists, and in the end, will attain success.
D.W.F.

Report for the twelfth period of four weeks.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Hill, R. E.	...	1122
2	Holmes, P.	...	1004
3	Smith, W. Alan	...	939
4	Holmes, P.	...	928
5	McLaren, D.	...	914
6	Pink, A.	...	880
7	Carpenter, E. H.	...	873
8	Knopp, H. A.	...	867
9	Coman, A. E.	...	864
10	Fisher, T. M.	...	827
11	Fisher, T. M.	...	812
12	McLaren, D.	...	776
13	Jackson, G. C.	...	751
14	Hammett, H. A.	...	744
15	Brown, C. H.	...	740
16	Smith, W. Alan	...	718
17	Chaffin, A.	...	716
18	Powell, G.	...	704
19	Richardson, H.	...	689
20	Stock, C. H.	...	637
21	Davis, G.	...	625
22	McIntosh, C.	...	607
23	Chaffin, A.	...	566
24	Webb, W....	...	539
25	Carpenter, E. H.	...	533
26	Woodcock, W. J.	...	519
27	Gwyn, A. I.	...	507
28	Campbell, J.	...	503
29	Hamilton, B.	...	479
30	James, G.	...	459
31	Miller, H. S.	...	458
32	Miller, H. S.	...	290
33	Boorman, F. W.	...	118

"Coincidence" Competition

BELOW is a selection of stories which have been submitted in our "Coincidence Competition." A further selection will be given next month when the prize winners will be announced.

Belonging to the Salonica Army, M.E.F., it was not possible for any of us men to receive much pleasure in life while we were out of the trenches, as we were always under canvas and away from any village. What amusement we did have we had to make ourselves, unless, by that lucky chance we were transferred to Malta, which meant serious illness or war wounds. I did manage to get this far, with malaria and yellow fever, in time for Christmas, 1916, and leaving in April, 1917, arrived back at Salonica on the 24th, and I rejoined my battalion about the middle of June. I was asked to report to the Company Captain about the middle of July, who told me that I was to have a fortnight's rest down at Janus, a rest camp about twenty miles down the line. I was surprised, for there were many men who had had no rest at all. Anyway, I went, and this is the coincidence.

In the rest camp, there was only the Army Canteen and the Y.M.C.A., and in the latter place there was the book of Her Majesty Queen Mary, about St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors, describing the running of our Headquarters, and Workshops, and even giving photographs of the latter. Reading best part of this book during my fortnight's stay, I had practical knowledge about St. Dunstan's. Arriving back to my battalion, the beginning of August, 1917, we went in the trenches for our month's debating with Johnny Bulgar, and during a raid on the 30th, I received my wounds which resulted in total loss of sight.

The book of Her Majesty was new, and no doubt had just been published and forwarded out there, 2,000 miles away, and was the only reading matter in the camp at that time. I looked upon it after as a warning and preparation of what I was about to receive. When I paid my first visit to Headquarters and the Workshops, with other men, from St. Mark's College, I was not a stranger, and I had my mental vision of what the place looked like.

Wallasey.

W. T. MONAGHAN.

Many St. Dunstaners will remember the row of telephone boxes which stood in the hall at the Bungalow. One day in '18, being temporarily at a loose end, I decided to ring up an ex-colleague named Shopland, who had worked in the same office as myself before the War. We had not met or corresponded since August, '14, but I had learnt that he had come through all right. Accordingly, I went to one of these telephone boxes to ask for my number. Just as I entered the box the bell rang and, as I was there, I thought I would take the call. So I lifted the receiver and, "Hullo," came the voice from the switch-board, "Could you find C. G. Williams, please; a Mr. Shopland wants to speak to him". After an interval of more than four years he had chosen that identical moment to ring me up.

Hampstead, N.W.3.

C. G. WILLIAMS.

Going back to 1915, on April 22nd, 1915, the Germans attacked us at St. Julian, using gas. As there were no gas masks or respirators available at that time, Colonel Bickerton issued pads. The following morning, April 23rd, having been sent back during the night to guard the road in Ypres, I was on duty when a shell struck the road, and totally blinded me; a few minutes later I was picked up and carried to the dressing station, about 200 yards away. Colonel Bickerton was in charge of the dressing station when I was carried in, and it was not until May, 1933, eighteen years later, that I met Colonel Bickerton again, this time at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, when he examined me and I became a St. Dunstaner.

J. R. BURTON.

Portchester.

Panel Massage

IN the various new measures being put forward to promote better standards of health for our people, I would like to point out that a very vast field of help to this end is not being used to its fullest advantage.

That field of help is known to the medical profession as Physical Medicine and includes all such treatments as Massage, Remedial Exercises, Diathermy, Ultra-Violet Ray (Artificial Sunlight), Infra Red Rays, Galvanic, Faradic, Sinusoidal and High Frequency Currents, Four Cell Schnee Baths, Local and General Radiant Heat Baths, etc.

When I say it is not used to its fullest extent, I mean, that at the moment its application is limited to the out-patient departments of hospitals, where such exist, and where private practices in such forms of treatment have been established.

The efficacy of these treatments is now firmly established and should, in my opinion, be available to every panel patient, which would immediately widen the field of utility of physical medicine and be a very great helping factor to a Fitter Britain.

There are large bodies of well-trained technicians, recognized by the medical profession, ready to carry out all such forms of treatments. I am sure that panel doctors would welcome the facility to order and supervise such treatments where they are considered necessary and advisable. Panel patients would undoubtedly be greatly benefited and the Nation's bill for ill-health materially lessened.

During the War, these various forms of treatments were proved of considerable

value to many thousands of wounded men, and since that time, considerable time and thought has been expended on this field of curative therapy, and that field has, therefore, been considerably extended in its scope and will become invaluable in the Nation's fight for Fitter Britain.

Make these treatments available to all panel patients. Little or no additional administrative machinery is necessary, it is here already, in the National Health Insurance Act.

The recognized societies are ready to do such work. The patients need it. The doctors would welcome it; then why not? The "supply" will not be forthcoming until the *demand is great enough*. Therefore, it is up to all panel patients to *demand* this invaluable aid to fitness through the various necessary channels, such as sick benefit societies, trade unions, The National Health Insurance, debating societies, etc.

We have already dental and optical benefits, let us then have physical medicine benefits, the advantages of which are recognized by all the doctors, the patients, and the public.

J. S. WHITELAM.

Brief Notes

C. Aplin, of Warley, gave his daughter Eileen, away at her wedding on October 26th at Warley Barracks. The *Daily Express* and the *News Chronicle* both had photographs of the bride and her father after the ceremony, Aplin's five medals and St. Dunstan's badge coming out well.

☆☆☆

T. North, of Walsall, placed the British Legion wreath on Walsall Cenotaph on November 11th. In a letter to us he recalls another Armistice Day, November 11th, 1918. "I was in training at St. Dunstan's at the time and I remember how we all left our work and marched to Hyde Park to hear the speech of our late beloved King George."

☆☆☆

The November (Poppy Day) number of the *British Legion Journal* contained a special article, "The Last Thing I Saw." It included contributions from Captain Sir Ian Fraser, Capt. William Appleby, Captain Gerald Lowry, H. V. Kerr, "Sammy" Webster, H. T. Eaton, W. Heushaw and E. Bates.

Sea Angling

THE occasion was the middle-day of the local club's Sea Angling Festival.

It was a grand day in every sense. There were eighty-seven competitors, chiefly spurred on by the splendid catches of yesterday. The foreshore of the little town was unusually active for the early morning. 9 a.m. and the boats to be on their stations by 10, at which time the official flag would drop to indicate the Festival had commenced. Twenty-eight little boats took their places within the waters allotted and the lines were cast. In perfect peace and restful pleasure the hours slipped by, and at 3.30 in the afternoon the official flag was hoisted as the signal to cease fishing; pull for the shore and weigh-in, was the order.

Now I suppose I am not the best type of angler; I am keen, I must confess, but my call to the seas is usually strongest when I hear "the fishing is good." This was the case on that middle-day of the Festival, so I duly entered my name, and complete with tackle, rod and line, and an ample supply of fat juicy lugworms, I made one of the party of three in our boat.

Things went well with me. I had hooked six before the others drew their first one, and as there were prizes in plenty my hopes began to rise. Yes, there were prizes for the biggest fish, the heaviest fish, the longest fish, the roundest fish, etc. I seemed to be specializing in dabs, good fish and worth eating. Yes, there was a prize for the flattest fish, so if only I could manage to get a really big one I should be all right. My best so far was only eight ounces. We went steadily on, and I still kept in the lead of our boat, but it seemed that other boats were doing great things farther afield. We shifted our position, and after another short lull the biting came fast and furious. It was excellent sport, and one of our three got a 2-lb. plaice which became the envy of my heart. However, I managed to keep ahead and landed with a bag of twenty-six fish, very pleased and hopeful for the weigh-in.

From the admiration and interest of the old ladies and small boys who insisted on making a personal inspection, for approval, or otherwise, of every angler as he landed on the jetty, I gathered there were few, if any, so far, presenting more favour

than my bag of fish. It seemed to me to weigh at least 10 lbs., but that estimate proved quite wrong when I reached the weigh-in on the pier.

For everybody's delight, and of more serious interest to the club competitors, they had erected a black-board, and as the weighing-in proceeded, magic numbers and names appeared from time to time to report and register the state of the competition in its many aspects—the number of fish, total catch, flattest fish, roundest fish, etc.

Quite modestly I retired into the buffet. I had eaten little all day, being somewhat aesthetic when it comes to cutting up juicy lug and ragworms with one hand, and holding a sandwich in the other. Somehow the appetite seems to fade. Whether it is the worms or the rocking of the boat or the excitement of the sport, I have not decided, but it's a sure thing that some such state does overtake the less hardened angler on these occasions.

Sitting in that buffet and drinking tea with my friends I experienced that pleasant feeling of certain to win something. I was informed my name was on the board for the greatest number of fish and also the top weight—5 lbs. 10 ozs., they told me. However, there were still many more bags to weigh-in yet, and it looked a long job.

Reaching home I was well received, since I had a fine bag of fish to offer and some hopeful news of the competition.

The next day duly arrived and the prize for the top catch with it, nicely packed up and brought along by the Chairman himself.

Our Chairman is a fine old type of Lancastrian. Wearing his usual angling outfit he was ushered in with a bulky parcel under his arm. To the great excitement of the family the prize was unveiled by the Chairman, who expressed his great pleasure in making the journey himself and apologized because it was not the Grand Challenge Silver Bowl. There was a quiet as the paper covering was slowly unwrapped, revealing a massive and heavy glass toilet table set, two candlesticks, three glass pots, a stand for rings, all contained on a thick glass tray, and all in jade green glass.

Both my wife and daughter seemed to shrink from it. I suppose their artistic

sense was offended. The old fellow continued to praise my efforts, and went on to tell us how the Club, all being sportsmen of the highest calibre, were glad I had won such distinction and he, on their behalf, expressed their pride in honouring such a one as myself. By this time I was hard put for words to express my thanks; however, I managed to say some very nice things at the same time keeping a close grip on my modesty as a fellow sportsman, and the old fellow left us.

Now came the problem: what could we do with the prize? I could see my wife was not keen, so I offered it to my daughter for her room, but no; both were loath to hurt my feelings and put up the plea that they were already fixed up in the matter of dressing-table sets. Clearly something was wrong—either the colour or design. Strewn on the table it made an impressive collection, but there were difficulties. My wife suggested that if I had won it last year instead of this year we could have given it as a wedding present, but at the moment she knew of no one getting married.

It all seemed very ungrateful to me, but I slowly understood the real meaning of a "white elephant," and condescended to have it put away and perhaps forgotten for all time. Who knows?

The sequel to my fishing achievements came later in the day when my daughter informed me that another blind man, fishing off Weymouth, four-and-a-half miles out to sea, had hooked and landed a shark weighing 199 lbs.

This completely squashed any sense of pride in my abilities as a sea angler. "Where did you see that?" I asked. "Here it is, in the newspaper; a photograph as well."

Enough! I am content to catch flat fish, even though they may be small. "You can eat what I catch," said I. But the reply came, "Well, Dad, if you had caught that shark in the Competition you might have got that Silver Challenge Bowl and we could have put our flowers in it; you can't do anything with your prize, can you?"

So that is sea-angling. I am not discouraged—far from it. I strongly recommend it to all who can sometimes get down to the sea; it's a certain cure for nerves or depression. Try it, and I'm sure you will agree.

F. C. S. HILLING.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Sports Meeting

THE winter meeting of the Sports Club took place at Headquarters on Tuesday, October 5th, when Sir Ian Fraser presided over an excellent attendance.

The Chairman stated that this was the first occasion on which the sports group had met since the death of Corporal Major Tovell, and expressed his sincere regret. Everyone stood for a few seconds in silence, in memory of a good friend and helper.

Sir Ian said that after careful consideration, it had been thought that the best way in which to find a new Sports Instructor would be to write to "The Blues" (Tovell's old regiment), and they had sent along Corporal Major Dawkins. Mr. Dawkins was received with applause, and he assured everyone that he would do his best to follow in the steps of his old friend and colleague.

The suggested programme of Socials, etc. was presented. A monthly dance would be arranged on the first Tuesdays throughout the season, except in the case of the opening October dance, Concerts would be arranged. Whist Drives would be held on vacant Tuesday evenings. The Christmas Party would be held on December 14th. Sir Ian hoped that a lecture, too, could be arranged. It was agreed that notices would appear in the REVIEW, and that there would be no special circulars.

Indoor Sports.—After some discussion it was agreed to carry on with the old programme. Physical jerks were, however, to be added, and it was decided that if these were not patronized well, they should be dropped.

Swimming.—Instructor Jones presented his programme. Practice nights were to be on Wednesdays and Fridays for the men and their children.

Football.—All the clubs have very kindly offered the same facilities as heretofore.

Summer Sports.—The following final points were given out amid applause :—

A Section		B Section	
A. Crook	... 47	W. Birchall	... 55
S. Edwards	... 33	Jock Brown	... 47
McSteel	... 31	W. Lacey	... 34
T. Collyer	... 9	B. Ingre	... 23
T. Roden	... 3	F. Winter	... 22
		W. Henry	... 20
		A. Lenderyou	6

The following ruling was passed in regard to Summer Sports :—

That where there are five or more competitors in a section there shall be two prizes, but where there are less than five competitors there shall be only one prize.

In determining whether there are five competitors in a section only those shall be counted who have secured more than five points in that section in the season.

Walks.—The following programme was passed after some helpful discussion :—

6 Mile Walk	... November 20th
9 Mile Walk	... January 22nd
12 Mile Walk	... February 26th
15 Mile Walk	... April 23rd
Birmingham Walk...	March

H. Gover suggested that a Strolling Club should be formed for those who felt that racing was a little too strenuous. The Chairman thought this a very good plan, but said he would prefer it to be left for this year, but H. Gover could arrange something with his friends this year if he liked.

Tickets for outside events.—The Chairman said that he had been able to obtain twenty double tickets for the variety concerts given by the B.B.C., and these would be issued in twos and fours each week, to be fitted in before Christmas. Names should be sent in to Miss Morris, and if more than twenty names were received a draw would be made. This would apply also for tickets for other events.

The Chairman said how glad he was to welcome some of the old friends at the Meeting—Mrs. Spurway, Miss Woolrych and Mr. Roberts (of the Natappro Club, Wembley).

J. McFarlane expressed the meeting's thanks to Sir Ian for attending and taking the Chair.

Christmas Party

The Christmas Party in the Lounge will be held on Tuesday, December 14th.

Brighton

The Sports Meeting of the Brighton Club on Wednesday, October 13th, was made the occasion of the presentation to Miss Audrey Rayson from St. Dunstan's men of Kent and Sussex, and the gathering of men and their wives, which overflowed through the doors of the Netting-room, provided just the happy, informal, homely atmosphere suitable to the gift which was made to Miss Rayson as a

token of appreciation of the many years she had spent in paying kindly visits to the families of St. Dunstaners in South-East England. It was quite unlike a formal presentation, and in that signified that the bond between the men and their late Visitor was a very personal and intimate one. Miss Rayson had chosen to receive a silver cigarette box, and her first thought was to fill it up, and take it round personally to each man in the gathering.

The business of the meeting followed.

At the request of Sister Morris, everyone stood for a few moments as a tribute to Corporal Major Tovell.

Sister Morris also expressed the regret of the meeting that Matron was not able to be with them, and their hope that she would soon be well again.

It was decided to carry on with the Domino Tournament through the winter, and a letter was read from Matron very kindly offering again her special prize.

Further meetings would be announced each month in the REVIEW and given out at the meetings. No postcards would be sent.

A splendid tea was provided by Sister Peacock, after which the first Domino Tournament of the season was begun.

The next Sports Meeting at Brighton will be held on Wednesday, December 8th, at 6 p.m.

Annual Swimming Gala

THIS Gala took place by kind permission of the St. Marylebone Borough Council at the new St. Marylebone Baths on Wednesday evening, October 27th.

The attendance was not quite as large as usual owing to the bad weather. Many of the competitors were, I think, of the opinion that they had had quite enough water for one day without going to the baths in the evening.

The racing was, however, particularly good. In A Section H. Crabtree won by the small margin of 3 ins. from P. Crafter, S. Douglas being 3rd only half a yard behind. This is the fourth successive year that Crabtree—who started from scratch—has won this event, but a special word of praise must be given to Crafter for putting up such a fine performance, especially as he is a newcomer.

In B Section W. Birchall, in a great race, again managed to beat his rival, F. Rhodes, by a couple of feet, Lacey being third only a yard behind.

In the Plunging Competition J. Mellor was first with a plunge of 29 feet plus a handicap of 9 feet, making a total of 38 feet. F. Rhodes was second with a plunge of 25 feet 6 inches, plus 12 feet, total 37 feet 6 inches. W. Birchall 29 feet, plus 6 feet, total 35 feet, was third. Mr. Jones acted as judge and Mr. Bloxham presented the prizes to the winners.

We were very pleased to welcome many of the wives of the competitors, but some of them seemed a little peeved at what they considered was the unconsciousable time their husbands kept them waiting while dressing, but as a brave young husband—without wife—remarked, it is about the only occasion in the year when they can get their own back on their better halves.

Mr. Jones proposed a vote of thanks to all the helpers and prize givers and expressed Mr. Ellis's great regret that he was unable to be present. Mr. Swain suitably replied.

Children's Gala

ALTHOUGH there was not a very big entry in the girls' section, the racing on November 3rd was very keen. The results were as follows:—

		Start	Go at
1st	Mary Burran	9 secs.	Go
2nd	Jean Rhodes	scratch	9
3rd	Joan Ollington		4

The boys had a better entry, but we would still like to see more in both classes. After a very good race the results were as follows:—

		Start	Go at
1st	Eric Burran	6 secs.	2
2nd	Cecil Rhodes	3 "	5
3rd	Harry Birch	scratch	8

University Rugby Match

We have received from the Cambridge University Rugby Union Football Club a number of tickets for the University match at Twickenham on Tuesday, December 7th.

Will those St. Dunstaners who would like to attend send in their names to the Sports Office not later than Tuesday, November 30th, when a draw will be made for the tickets if necessary.

"In Memory"

Private WILLIAM CLIFFORD SHAW.
(12th Royal Fusiliers)

It is with deep regret that we announce the sudden death of W. C. Shaw, of Brighton, formerly of Hucknall.

Shaw was blinded in 1915 in France. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1917 and was taught basket-making, at which occupation he worked until a short time before his death. His passing on October 22nd was very sudden as, although he had not been very well for a few days, he was able to be up and about until the evening before.

The funeral took place a few days later at Preston Cemetery, and was attended by Miss Downing, Miss Boyd Rochfort, several St. Dunstan's men and their wives, and Orderlies Hawke and Mitchell. Many wreaths were received, including one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. Shaw leaves a widow to mourn his loss, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

Private RALPH SWEETING
(Lancashire Fusiliers)

With the deepest regret, we have to announce the death of R. Sweeting, of Rochdale. He served from 1914 to 1915, when he was wounded at the Dardanelles, coming to St. Dunstan's at the end of that year. He was trained as a mat-maker and netter, but for many years has been unable to carry on at either of these occupations. He had not been at all well for several months, but his death, which took place on the 1st November, was unexpected.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades at St. Dunstan's. We offer our sincerest sympathy to his relatives and friends.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to V. Clay, of Nottingham, and his wife, whose silver wedding was on October 24th; to D. G. Morgan, of Tredegar, and his wife, whose anniversary was the following day; to J. Irvine, of Glasgow, and his wife, who celebrated theirs on November 1st; to T. Shepherd, of Leighton Buzzard, and his wife, whose anniversary was on November 9th; and to T. H. Millard, of New Tredegar, and his wife, whose silver wedding falls on November 14th.

Births

GROCOTT.—To the wife of A. W. Grocott, of North Kensington, on the 11th November, a daughter.

LAKE.—To the wife of E. Lake, of Beverley, on October 10th, a daughter—Margaret Rose. (see "Deaths.")

TOMKINSON.—To the wife of H. Tomkinson, of Kilburn, on the 9th November, a daughter.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

BARNES.—To W. Barnes, of Bradford, and his wife, whose son, aged seventeen, passed away on the 8th November, after a comparatively short illness. His death was due to pneumonia.

BLACKMAN.—To T. Blackman, of Market Harborough, whose wife died on November 12th.

LAKE.—To E. Lake, of Beverley, and his wife, whose little daughter, born on October 10th, lived only two days.

WRIGHT.—To Mrs. Wright, widow of the late W. Wright, of Wilsden, who lost her daughter Joan, in October, under tragic circumstances.

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson

LADY (ARTHUR) PEARSON, our President, has expressed a wish that the annual service in memory of the late Sir Arthur Pearson shall, in future, be held in St. Dunstan's own Chapel at the Brighton Home. In the future this will, of course, take place in the Chapel which is being built at the new home at Rottingdean, where there will be room for a large congregation composed of those at the Home at the time, and many who live in the neighbourhood. But this year the service will take place in the little Chapel in the old Home. It is impossible, therefore, to invite St. Dunstaners from Brighton and district to attend. Only those residing in the Annexe will be able to be accommodated.

As usual a deputation of St. Dunstaners will proceed to Hampstead from Headquarters on the morning of December 9th to lay a wreath on Sir Arthur's grave. Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Askew at Headquarters.

Marriage

CAVANAGH-READ.—W. Cavanagh, of Sunderland to Lilian Read, of Brighton, at St. Mary's Church, Sunderland, on October 28th.

Apartments

Brighton

Full board-residence, 30s. per week. Children half price.—Mrs. Stracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Brighton.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 236.—VOLUME XXII. [New Series] DECEMBER, 1937

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Matron

ST. DUNSTAN'S ANNEXE,
BRIGHTON.
December, 1937.

"MY VERY DEAR BOYS,

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you ; my love and a hearty shake of the hand to each one of you, your wives and children.

I cannot tell you how deeply I feel that I am still unable to be about with you all, but my sudden illness which necessitated an operation some months ago has proved more serious than was at first expected and in spite of all that can possibly be done for me, I am still gravely ill.

I want, through the medium of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW, to tell you all what a happiness and privilege it has been to me to be with you all these past twenty-one years, and how much I hope I may have been of some tiny help to you.

I am doing my best to get better, but I want you to remember that you will always be in my prayers, heart and thoughts.

God bless you all,

Ever your affectionate old
MATRON."

Miss Thellusson wrote this letter the day before she died. She would, I know, wish it to be published.

As her illness went on she must have known that the chances of recovery were becoming less, and her courage and fortitude during the last few weeks were in line with the splendid qualities she had shown during her life. Every St. Dunstaner will feel the poignancy and sympathy of this message written just before the end, and will wish it had been possible for an answer to have been sent. Miss Thellusson was part of St. Dunstan's, and particularly of the St. Dunstan's spirit ; thus will she be remembered. Her life illustrated better than that of anyone I have known the devoted service given by women in the healing of the spiritual and physical wounds of war. She brought to her work at St. Dunstan's rare gifts of leadership and love; two thousand British blinded soldiers are the better and happier for her life.

Notes from South Africa

PRETORIA is sweltering in a heat wave, for the shade temperature during the past ten days has been in the neighbourhood of 100 degrees. Our city is now at its brightest, for the jacaranda trees, for which it is famed, and which border the wide streets of the administrative capital of the Union of South Africa, are in full bloom, and present a magnificent spectacle, with their gorgeous purple foliage and the beautiful carpet underfoot, caused by the falling petals.

Yesterday, the epoch-making monoplane, piloted by Flying Officer Clouston and Mrs. Kirby Green, passed over the city, *en route* for Cape Town, and caused quite a sensation. Late in the evening I was pleased to hear of the success of the flight, the two plucky aviators having beaten Amy Johnson's record by 33½ hours.

Our Governor-General, Sir Patrick Duncan, attended the Armistice Service on Church Square, Pretoria, and delivered a stirring address to a vast concourse of people, troops and ex-servicemen. Captain Young and myself, representing St. Dunstan's, and several members of our local committee, headed by Mrs. H. P. Veale, the President, were also present. On the following evening a Grand Armistice Ball was held at which the Governor-General and Lady Duncan attended.

South African St. Dunstaners will regret to learn of the death, in London, of Mrs. R. R. Edwards, wife of Colonel R. R. Edwards, C.B.E., and a member of the Pretoria Committee. This lady rendered yeoman service to the cause of St. Dunstan's for many years, and her loss will be sadly felt.

Another loss we have sustained is by the resignation of Mrs. Kathleen Battle from the post of Honorary Organizing Secretary of the Pretoria Committee. Mrs. Battle had worked on behalf of our organization for many years, and will be hard to replace. It is hoped, however, that she will resume her former activities after she has enjoyed a well-earned rest.

Mason and Archibald, who reside at Pietermaritzburg and Gilletts, Natal, respectively, were recently visited by Mr. W. A. Mulinder, of Pretoria, who was spending a holiday in Natal. Mr. Mulin-

der served for twenty-three years in the 1st Battalion, East Kent Regiment, and Mason and Archibald were overjoyed to see him and the visit was the more welcome because visitors are very few and far between in this part of the British Dominions. Mr. Mulinder is a regular visitor to Denny, they being very old service friends, and are members of the Executive Committee of the British Empire Service League in Pretoria which, if you do not know, is affiliated with the British Legion.

I received a very cheerful letter from Mrs. Chadwick-Bates last week. This very hard-worked lady writes to all South African St. Dunstaners regularly and is kept very busy looking after the interests of our institution and our men. She has a tremendous amount of travelling to do, and it will give you some idea when you realize that when she pays her annual visit to Pretoria she spends two days and two nights on the train journey.

As these notes may or may not have the good fortune to be published in the December issue of the REVIEW, I take the opportunity of wishing all the boys, and all who look after their welfare, a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

E. DENNY,

Pretoria.

November 17th.

Letter to the Editor

DEAR SIR,

I have never favoured "slimming" and should indeed be glad to see the REVIEW put on some weight in common with many of the fair sex, who have reduced too much, but I readily appreciate that yours is the greater difficulty, for it is certainly easier to feed a girl than a magazine, and I regret that I can think of no pleasing contribution to the latter.

I should like to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of Readers, who are Catholics (Roman) to The Crusade of the Blind, which is our particular Branch of The Apostleship of Prayer. The Hon. Secretary is Miss Gaisford, of "Danefold," West Grinstead, Horsham, who would gladly write to those interested on hearing from them.

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR T. BROOKS,
Bournemouth.

FOR SALE.

BUDGERIGARS. G. Mathews has bred thirteen budgerigars this season and has some for sale, mostly blue. Price, 8s. a pair. G. Mathews, 148 Moseley Road, Bilston, Staffs.

Young St. Dunstaners

Nancy Stock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stock, of Gorsley, has been awarded a special place in the Day School of Commerce.

☆ ☆ ☆

Harold, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gunson, of Batley, has been successful in his School Certificate examination, and he is now continuing his studies in order to take the Higher Schools Certificate.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eileen Milner, who is ten, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milner, of Walton, Liverpool, has passed the Preparatory Grade Examination of the London College of Music for pianoforte playing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Elizabeth ap Rhys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. ap Rhys, of Bangor, has been doing well in the fields of hockey and amateur theatricals. She played for Caernarvonshire County Schools against Anglesey County Schools recently when, to quote a newspaper report, "she played a constructive game and her stick work was excellent". She was again in the news when her school produced Barrie's play, *Quality Street*. She played the part of Valentine Brown and her performance was highly praised.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mary the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kidger, of Bridgnorth, has passed the subsidiary examination in preparation for the Higher Schools Certificate.

☆ ☆ ☆

Norah, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Selby, of Larkfield, has been awarded a special exhibition by the Governors of the Maidstone Grammar School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Irene Purvis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Purvis, of Seghill, was married to Mr. James Smith on June 26th at Worthing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Eighteen year old Joan Smith, who is the daughter of Mr. W. Alan Smith (a St. Dunstan's officer) and Mrs. Alan Smith, of Mareham-le-Fen, has won a miniature rifle shooting cup from forty male competitors.

Joan, who shoots with an old service rifle, only took up shooting two years ago and is now a member of Mareham Rifle Club. Her ambition is to shoot at Bisley. A photograph of Joan and an account of her success appeared in the *Daily Mirror*.

☆ ☆ ☆

Godwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Taylor, of Lye, Stourbridge, has passed his Cambridge Schools Certificate examination with five credits and is entering the teaching profession. His brother, Desmond, has passed an entrance examination for the Day School of Commerce, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton, of Canterbury, has secured high awards at her school for practical embroidery, although she was entered for higher year examinations. She also won second class certificates for design and nature drawing, in spite of the fact that she had had no instruction in these subjects. Carlton's other daughter, Mary, who is eleven, has passed and gained honours in three examinations of the Royal Drawing Society, and was awarded the Society's first prize in Class I.

☆ ☆ ☆

Margaret Tootell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Tootell, was one of her school team of dancers which won the cup at the Blackpool Festival.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bulley, of Romsey, who celebrated their silver wedding on November 23rd; to Mr. and Mrs. Fox, of Hanley (a St. Dunstaner in training), whose anniversary fell on February 18th of this year; to Mr. and Mrs. Dykes, of Cudworth, near Barnsley, who will celebrate their silver wedding on Christmas Day, and to Mr. and Mrs. Swindell, of New Lenton, whose anniversary occurred in September of last year but has only just been brought to our notice.

Competition

Do you remember your last Christmas in the firing line? If you do, send us a line about it. A prize of ten shillings will be given to the sender of the most interesting account. Closing date, January 10th, 1938.

Does your Talking Book Machine gabble?

Quite a few of our readers seem to be under the impression that our artists read at a very rapid rate. This complaint usually follows the reader having used American Talking Book records. The American record should be run at 33 revolutions per minute, and our records at 24 r.p.m. The artists, in each case, read at much the same speed, and if, when your machine is slowed to the utmost, the reading is still fast, your machine is out of adjustment.

Correct adjustment is comparatively easy, and can be done by anyone with two screw-drivers and a mechanical turn of mind. Remove the circlip from the turntable spindle and lift off turntable, set speed control lever to the extreme right of its travel, release locking screw (the one working in the slot 2 inches from the control lever spindle) and by means of the screw-driver hold this spindle still and move lever, say $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, to the left. Tighten up locking screw and replace turntable and circlip. This should put the matter right.

NOTE—All adjustments should be made after the machine has warmed up for at least half an hour.

L. S. PINDER,
Chief Recording Engineer.

A Talking Book Review

WITHOUT doubt, one of the most outstanding of newspaper correspondents was Philip Gibbs, not only for his vivid war correspondence and his advocacy of peace, but also for his books.

Sir Philip became a journalist and served on the *Daily Mail*, *The Tribune*, about which he wrote *The Street of Adventure*, and the *Daily Chronicle*. He was special correspondent to the Bulgarian army in 1912, and was a war correspondent in France during the Great War. His numerous writings included *The Soul of the War*, 1915, *Realities of War*, 1920, *Ten Years After*, 1924, *The Cross of Peace*, 1932, and *Blood Relations*, which has been recorded for the Talking Book Library.

This story opens with the Count Paul von Arnberg, a young Bavarian nobleman, going to Oxford University for further advancement in his education.

This event happens in the summer of 1912, when all the world was at peace. Von Arnberg becomes very friendly with Edward Middleton. During the vacation Middleton invites his German heel-clicking friend to his people's place in Chiddingfold. Middleton's sister, Audrey, is enraptured with the young Count. It is not necessary to dwell here upon subsequent happenings, but Audrey becomes the Countess Paul von Arnberg, and leaves England for Gamish in the Bavarian Alps. Then the war comes and Paul joins his Bavarian Regiment seeing service at Messines and finally he is captured at Thiepval. The final phase of this book deals with the post-war period under Ebert until the rise of Adolf Hitler.

The position of an English wife living in Berlin, and her visits to the Templehoff Military Hospital, the pro-British ideas of a German Count brought upon to believe in *welt kultur*, the beliefs that England forced the war upon Germany, Gustav Stresemann's efforts to bring about a better understanding with the people of Europe, clearly define the real purpose of this enthralling book.

From the standpoint of promoting friendly relations with our late adversaries, this Talking Book should be listened to by every St. Dunstaner.

A word in praise of the reader, Mr. Lionel Gamlin. His diction, expression and mimicry are of the highest possible standard, for which one can only say, thank you. "BOOKWORM."

The King's Birthday

ST. DUNSTAN'S WISHES.

Below are copies of telegrams sent to and received from His Majesty The King :

December 14th.

"His Majesty The King, Buckingham Palace, S.W.

On behalf of British blinded soldiers, sailors, and airmen and of the Council of St. Dunstan's I express to Your Majesty our loyal greetings and best wishes for Many Happy Returns of the Day.

IAN FRASER."

"Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman, St. Dunstan's, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

Please convey the King's sincere thanks to all those associated with you in your kind message of congratulations on His Majesty's Birthday.

ALEXANDER HARDINGE."

Holiday Camp Fund Draw

A DRAW for Camp Funds has been arranged to meet a slight deficit on last camp and to collect some funds towards the next. The expense of transport and erection of a large camp for a week is fairly heavy—campers' fees pay most of the expenses but a fund is annually collected for help with long distance fares and to pay for all amusements. The prizes were all presented by campers, and the tickets have also been sold by them.

Perhaps though late in the day a word about this year's camp would not be out of place here.

How lovely to think of camping. I wish I could wake up to-morrow to find the winter over and the next camp about to start. The camp site this year was a new one, but very near the site we had in 1924-25—Clopton Farm, Birmingham Road, Stratford-on-Avon, lent by Mr. Henson, who was most helpful in every way. The party in camp was a large one, about fifty in all.

It was a great meeting of old friends. This short account would not be complete if we did not record the fact that we all put on weight during the week owing to the splendid caterer and cook from the R.A.F. depot. Never have we had such food. We ate twice as much as usual because it was so good; hence the necessity for the draw! But the caterer must not take that too seriously.

A.O.S.

DRAW.

1st, Ticket No. 20; Mr. H. Cox, 21 Well Lane, Rothwell, Northants. Collector, J. Kimber. Prize, Electric lamp; presented by W. Birchall.

2nd, Ticket No. 666; Miss D. M. Hoare, St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road, E.2. Collector, Miss D. M. Hoare. Prize, a door-mat; presented by J. Kimber.

3rd, Ticket No. 838; Mr. H. W. Byford, 111 Booth Road, Colindale, N.W.9. Collector, D. Deacon. Prize, a tray; presented by J. Dennick.

4th, Ticket No. 351; Mr. R. S. Cooling, 179 Northfield Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham. Collector, Miss Chadwick. Prize, a twenty-one piece tea set.

5th, Ticket No. 21; Mr. J. A. Evans, 66 East-cote Road, Ruislip, Middlesex. Collector, P. Ashton. Prize, a chicken; presented by P. Holmes.

6th, Ticket No. 184; Mrs. Harris, Coach Hill, Titchfield. Collector, Mrs. Remish. Prize, box of chocolates; presented by W. Shakespeare.

National Laying Test

Report for the first period of four weeks, October 4th to 31st, 1937.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Campbell, J.	...	123
2	Fisher, T. M.	...	88
3	Powell, G.	...	83
4	Hammett, H. A.	...	78
5	Brown, M. Watson	...	73
6	Knopp, H. A.	...	66
7	Roberts, Harry	...	64
8	Jarvis, Albert	...	64
9	Carpenter, E. H.	...	64
10	Holmes, Percy	...	63
11	Smith, W. Alan	...	61
12	Holmes, Percy	...	61
13	Jackson, G. C.	...	60
14	Capper, A. H.	...	59
15	Gwyn, A. Ivor	...	55
16	Hamilton, B.	...	52
17	Hamilton, B.	...	44
18	McLaren, D.	...	43
19	Smith, W. Alan	...	41
20	Fisher, T. M.	...	40
21	Chaffin, Albert	...	30
22	Stock, C. H.	...	29
23	Hill, R. E.	...	29
24	McIntosh, Charles	...	25
25	Capper, A. H.	...	18
26	Brown, C. H.	...	18
27	Webb, W....	...	16
—	Woodcock, W. J.	...	—
—	McLaren, David	...	—

A Holiday Memory

IN September I spent a few days' holiday as the guest of a great friend of mine and on the 15th I received a written invitation from Messrs. J. Lyons & Co. to visit their factory at Greenford.

Arriving next morning with my escort, we were met at the main gate of this very modern factory, with its beautiful gardens and large grounds, by a charming lady guide. She was very anxious that we should see every thing of interest. First she showed us the medical, rest and dining rooms, then we were taken to the cocoa department where everything was explained to us down to the last detail. We were then invited to rest and take light refreshments, after which we resumed our tour round the tea department. On leaving, I was asked to sign the visitors' book, and given a souvenir. It was a most enjoyable morning. The following day I visited the Tower of London, and I finished a splendid holiday with a trip down the Thames on the *Royal Daffodil*.

R. BIGGADIKE.

Royal Invitations

REPORTS of Royal presentations in recent REVIEWS have prompted J. Spinks, of Ashton-under-Lyne, to mention his experiences. In a letter to Sir Ian he writes:

In March, 1916, I had the honour of being entertained at the invitation of King George V at Buckingham Palace. I have been to Westminster Abbey and had tea at the invitation of the Dean of the Abbey, and I have had tea at Marlborough House when the late Queen Alexandra was in residence there. On this occasion, only two of us went.

It is my proud boast that not one person out of every twenty million has had the privilege of being entertained at these three Royal and historical places. I still retain the late King George's official invitation to Buckingham Palace.

"The Man with the Magic Hands"

Under this title a full-page article by Harry Cook, who is masseur to Everton F.C., appeared in the *Topical Times* of November 27th. We feel sure that St. Dunstaners will be interested in the following extracts from it:

Before the war I played amateur inside forward for Clitheroe. My ambition was to play for Everton, but the loss of my sight wrecked these ideas. Even so, not many years passed before I "signed" for Everton.

From Egypt I returned to England and entered that wonderful institution, St. Dunstan's.

I studied and passed exams in London. I went to Liverpool University.

Fifteen years ago Sir Robert Jones, famous bone specialist, recommended me to the Everton club for a job as masseur. I was appointed.

Since then I've massaged thousands of legs. No two have been alike.

I don't have to wait for the voice to know who is my "patient" on the massage table. Small peculiarities in the limb tell me his identity at once.

A slight thickness about the ankle tells me that "Dixie" Dean is on the table. Charlie Gee has two scars on one knee where cartilages were removed. Tom Lawton has a longer tibia shin-bone than any of his clubmates. Joe Mercer has a slight curve in his shin-bone. Albert Geldard—very hairy legs.

I can "spot" a player by the shape of his arch or the position of a small corn.

I enjoy football as much now as when I could see. Of the hundreds of games I've "watched," the one which gave me my biggest thrill was at Wembley when Everton beat Manchester City for the F.A. Cup.

I spent a few days before the big match with the players in their special training quarters at Dorking.

I was smitten with a bad attack of cup-tie fever, and could think of little else but the oncoming game.

If the players had similar feelings they didn't show them. Most of them showed they were cooler than cucumbers by the calm way they chatted to me of almost everything but football.

Two in particular showed iron control—I massaged both on the night before the match, and though I had a job to keep my hands steady the pair were as cool as if they had a "date" at a garden party the next day.

During the game I sat in the stand with Charlie Gee, who was injured at the time.

One reason why I still get a kick when I think of this game is that Charlie rattled off a running commentary in a crisp, clear style which wouldn't disgrace any radio commentator.

Footballers are tough. When injured they often show amazing guts in their fight to regain fitness. The best example of this while I've been at Goodison concerns Charlie Gee.

A few years ago Charlie suffered a severe knee twist. He consulted leading bone specialists. Doctors diagnosed a chronic condition of the knee, and told Charlie that his days as a footballer were numbered.

One specialist, however, said there was just a chance. This doctor removed two cartilages from Charlie's knee at one operation. Charlie was then handed over to my care.

It was the worst knee I have ever handled. For weeks I spent hours daily massaging the knee at my own electrically-equipped clinic. The knee refused to bend. I began to think that Charlie would never be able to bend the limb again.

I persevered. So did Charlie. "I'll show 'em whether I'm finished or not!" he used to say to me as I tried to get the joint working properly.

Suddenly the knee started to respond to treatment. The recovery was now so rapid that thirteen weeks after the cartilage operation Charlie was playing in the first team again, with the knee as strong as ever. And he was capped for England after that.

More Coincidences

Here is a further selection from the numerous entries in our Coincidences Competition. The prizewinners are given on page 2.

When my regiment, the 1st K.O.S.Brs., left Colchester for Egypt in December, 1906, we left behind a certain Sergeant Sandy Muir and his family, one of them a little, red-haired boy that I often used to see about the barracks. Sergeant Muir was at that time, master tailor to the regiment. He was getting on towards pension time, and instead of going abroad with the battalion he was to proceed to the depot of the regiment at Berwick-on-Tweed to finish his time, while we were setting forth on a long tour of foreign service. It was almost a hundred to one chance that we should never see each other again.

However, fate plays many strange pranks with our lives, and although it was not until late in 1915 or early in '16, we did meet again. One day when I was returning to St. Dunstan's about the time stated, I was hailed by someone, and who should it be but my old friend, Sergeant

Muir, who had just come up to Headquarters to see his son, that same little boy whom I last saw in 1906, now Sergeant Jock Muir, who in addition to the loss of his sight, had also the very bad luck to lose a leg.

☆ ☆ ☆

During the early months of 1914 I had enrolled my name on the books of St. Mark's College, Chelsea, and was due to enter upon residence in the following September. By September 12th the war fever had caught me and I joined the 7th Lincolns, quitting the teaching post in which I was filling up the time pending entrance. The College authorities promised to keep my place open.

Time passed, and the new kind of life turned my thoughts away from teaching, with the result that St. Mark's occupied no place in my plans for the future; anything would be more adventurous than a lifetime spent with boys and books.

However, stand-to on the morning of December 10th, 1915, found me in the waterlogged and crumbling trenches known as XIA in the Salient; a German marksman got me with a bullet across the face, and the forlorn landscape was blotted out. This reduced me to the horizontal for a fortnight, and started me on my journey home via hospital at Boulogne to Dover and London, where my stretcher was finally dumped on Christmas Eve, 1915 at St. Mark's College, Chelsea, which had been commandeered as a hospital under the style of No. 2 London General.

I am not more than usually superstitious, but this was enough to bring me back to the fold. One of my first bedside visitors was Principal Hudson, and when the College resumed its normal guise in 1919, I was able to complete my training there, and have been teaching ever since.

P. S. SUMNER.

Worcester.

☆ ☆ ☆

I was at St Dunstan's (at the house) in 1916. One day I was in the lounge talking to one of our men when to our great surprise we found we used to attend the same school as boys together. Up to that time we had not seen or heard of each other for twenty-five years. It was a real reunion. We were never parted the whole six months we were in training. We both took up poultry and mat making. We still keep in touch with one another by letter and at times a visit. He is H. Hurst, of Great Longstone. Morecambe.

THOMAS THORPE.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. B. Wheeler, of Birmingham, sends us an interesting souvenir of his war-time experiences. He had come from the firing line for a rest, and for a month was billeted in a monastery at Mouscron. A week before the Armistice a concert was given for our men, and Wheeler has sent us the programme of that concert. Of thirteen items, two songs are given in English—"Because," and "I know of two bright eyes."

Think of it !

SOME people go to theatres, sports, and for motor drives, because they like to see these things, and the countryside. Other people go to the music hall and the pier for what they can hear. They like seeing and hearing what they like, but if you cannot hear or see, you can't choose either. You can, of course, choose to read braille, but there are times when even braille does not appeal to you.

Why not *think* of what you like. What is more private and independent than your own thoughts as a means of amusement or pastime? Look at the millions of subjects you can think over. There are the great *thinkers*. There was Volk known in Brighton as the "Dreamer", but he laid and ran the first electric railway in Great Britain. This runs along the Brighton front from the Palace Pier to the Black Rock. How many St. Dunstaners knew that? And strangely enough, Brighton claims to be the first town linked with London on a main trunk electric line.

There was Gillette, who was laughed at because he sat and thought so much and talked very little, but he gave the world the safety razor.

And they called him Folly Fulton, and his boat Fulton's Folly, but they cheered as it paddled up the river—the first successful steamboat.

Of course, you must think of what you like to think. Maybe, you'd rather sit, smoke and think of Vesta Tilly and Little Tich, Marie Lloyd and Eugene Stratton. See and hear them all over again. Or you might be climbing hills and looking down again upon the huge valley and the glorious sunset.

On the other hand, there might be something you'd like to make, but you just don't happen to know how to start and which way would be best. Sit and think it out. If others can solve their everyday problems with an active mind, why not you?

Everything cannot be seen, everything cannot be heard, everything cannot be held or touched, but everything can be thought of—think of it!

G. FALLOWFIELD.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

6 Mile Walking Handicap

This event took place on Saturday, 20th November, under ideal weather conditions and proved to be one of the best races ever held. By way of a change each man started at his handicap allowance which caused a very keen and interesting race. The finish was exciting as about a quarter of a mile covered the first ten men.

Tea was once again served by Miss Davies and her helpers, and the prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Dacre.

9 Mile Team Race

The 9 mile team race will take place from Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, on Saturday, 29th January, at 2.30 p.m. We have asked one or two of the outside clubs if they will kindly bring a team to compete against us. This, we hope, will create a new interest.

Unless we hear from you to the contrary, may we take it that you will be competing?

Tuesday Night Arrangements

On the first Tuesday in January (the 4th) there will be a dance in the lounge at Headquarters. The following Tuesday will be a Sports Meeting.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be on Wednesday, January 19th, at 6 p.m.

Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Service

The Memorial Service for our Founder, the late Sir Arthur Pearson, was held in the Lounge at the Brighton Home on the morning of December 9th. Lady(Arthur) Pearson, our President, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Miss Hamar Greenwood, and Mr. Askew, were present, together with those St. Dunstaners at the Home who were able to attend. Mr. Askew read the lesson, and in an address, Sir Ian spoke of the deep affection and regard in which Sir Arthur would always be held by St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstan's men. Sir Ian also referred to the further severe loss St. Dunstan's had sustained in the death of Matron Thellusson.

Before travelling to Brighton, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser and Mr. Askew, with three St. Dunstaners—Drummer Downs, A. Craigie, and J. Edwards—visited Hampstead Cemetery where a wreath in the form of our badge was placed on Sir Arthur's grave. Sir Neville Pearson joined the party at the graveside, where Mr. Askew conducted a short service. A very beautiful wreath from St. Dunstan's telephonists was among other tributes.

Births

DUNWOODIE.—To the wife of G. Dunwoodie, of Newcastle, on November 27th, a son.

6 MILE WALKING HANDICAP.

20th November, 1937.

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
A.				
A. Brown ...	54.32	Scratch	54.32	2
P. Ashton ...	55.41	1.30	54.11	1
J. Jerome ...	57.55	2.0	55.55	5 Fastest Loser
H. Gover ...	60.23	2.45	57.38	9
J. Coupland ...	60.57	6.0	54.57	3
H. Giles ...	62.14	6.15	55.59	6
W. T. Scott ...	62.14	5.30	56.44	7
S. Dyer ...	62.29	5.45	56.44	8
T. Rouse... ...	63.34	8.0	55.34	4
B.				
T. ap Rhys ...	56.30	2.30	54.0	1
H. Boorman ...	60.34	3.30	57.4	5 Fastest Loser
A. Craigie ...	63.47	7.45	56.2	4
H. Kerr ...	64.0	5.30	58.30	6
A. Lenderyou ...	65.34	10.15	55.19	2
W. C. Scott ...	65.44	9.45	55.59	3
F. Rhodes ...	71.50	12.30	59.20	7

Matron Thellusson

St. Dunstaners everywhere will learn with the utmost regret of the death of Matron Thellusson. After a long illness, Matron passed away at the Brighton Home on Friday, December 3rd.

Miss Thellusson came to St. Dunstan's in 1917 as a young V.A.D. She was with us at the College and no one will ever forget her comforting presence in those days, and in particular during the difficult days of the War. To many St. Dunstan's men, their most vivid recollection of Matron will be of her great courage and cheerfulness during air raids. She would call us, grumblingly protesting, from our beds, marshal us into the cellar, and then through the anxious hours keep up our spirits with hot drinks and cheery words.

Matron's whole life was spent in selfless service for others. Her friends say that even as a child in the Isle of Man she gave early signs of that unselfish spirit, that grand sense of humour, and her wonderful gift of getting the best out of people.

Dr. Gemmell, St. Dunstan's Medical Officer, who visited Matron every day during her illness, not only in his professional capacity, but as a friend, and Mr. Fletcher, her surgeon, had nothing but the highest praise for the way in which she had borne her illness. Mr. Fletcher has said, "I consider it a privilege to have been in touch with such a woman."

Miss Thellusson loved St. Dunstan's, and she died in harness, as she wished.

The funeral took place on Monday, December 6th, at St. John the Baptist's Church, Brighton. Two hundred and fifty St. Dunstaners from the surrounding districts were there to pay their last tribute. After the service, they filed out of the church and lined each side of the

road. Then the coffin, covered with the Union Jack, passed slowly between them, on its way to Brighton and Preston Cemetery where many St. Dunstaners lie. It was Matron's wish that she should be buried among them.

In addition to family mourners, there were present Lady (Arthur) Pearson, President of St. Dunstan's, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., Honorary Treasurer, Captain Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman, and Lady Fraser, Colonel Eric Ball, Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, and Mrs. Ball, Miss Hamar Greenwood, Mr. Askew, and Miss Elsie Downing and Miss Boyd Rochfort, Miss Thellusson's personal friends and colleagues.

There were over one hundred wreaths, which included one of poppies, with the inscription, "From the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of St. Dunstan's, in affectionate remembrance of their devoted friend."

Among the other wreaths were those from Lady (Arthur) Pearson, Sir Neville Pearson, Captain Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Colonel and Mrs. Eric Ball, Miss Hamar Greenwood, the Executive Council of St. Dunstan's, Mr. and Mrs. W. Askew, the Staff at St. Dunstan's Headquarters, the Staff of St. Dunstan's Stores, the Staff at St. Dunstan's Poultry Farm, the Social and Technical Visitors at St. Dunstan's, "Her Boys at the Brighton Annexe," Miss E. Downing, Miss Boyd Rochfort, the Brighton Sports Club of St. Dunstan's, Orderlies of St. Dunstan's Annexe, Staff of the Brighton Appeals Office and Mrs. Boyd, Brighton, Hove and District Grocers' Association, St. Dunstan's Outing Committee, Brighton, Hove, and Southdown Transport Co., "Mrs. N. S. Macauley and her Irish boys," Mrs. E. M. Chadwick Bates, the Rev. and Mrs. Eyton Jones.

An Appreciation

MEMBERS of St. Dunstan's have learned with the deepest sorrow of the passing of Matron Thellusson, one of the noblest of the many noble characters with which our organisation has been blessed.

This lady could have led a life of ease and luxury, but Matron had a finer conception of life than self—knew that its true purpose is service, and for twenty-one years we of St. Dunstan's had a full

measure of that service. Her knowledge and understanding of human nature was such that she would err on the side of the transgressor to try and correct a weakness; always ready to lighten other people's burdens by taking them on her own shoulders, ever ready with a word of help, advice or encouragement for those in trouble; a friendly tap on the back for those who had a little success. How the sick-ward looked forward to her daily visits before breakfast and last thing at night, no matter what the

stress of the day (and only those closest to her knew how great that stress was at times). She was never too tired to lend a helping arm to any who needed support; to instruct the night-orderly if a man dangerously ill took a turn for the worse that she had to be called. How many of our departed comrades must have thanked God for her comforting presence as they waited to pass into the beyond? Her first and last thought was for her boys.

Each member of her staff was ready to do anything for her, secure in the knowledge they could take their trouble to her and receive a sympathetic hearing and motherly advice, and the world outside our little community held her in the same high respect and esteem.

It has been truly said that God's greatest gift to man is a good woman. We have had this gift. Now she has passed on. Ours is the greater loss, hers the gain; for if any human being possessed those golden virtues, Faith, Hope and Love, it was "Our Matron".

T.R.

To the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of St. Dunstan's :

Thank you all *ever* so much for the beautiful wreath you sent for Matron, and all your kind thoughts and sympathy. One of the last things she said was, "Give my love and blessings to all my dear boys."

With *most* grateful thanks,

Your friend,

ELSIE DOWNING.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE WILLIAM THOMAS EVANS.
(2nd Essex Regiment)

WE have, with deep regret, to announce the death of W. T. Evans, of Llay.

Evans served from 1915 to 1917, but did not come to St. Dunstan's from the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, until 1926. He was always an invalid, and consequently was unable to take up any occupation. In spite of the fact that he had been in such indifferent health for many years, his death, which took place on November 18th, was unexpected.

The funeral took place at Llay Cemetery, and was attended by members of the British Legion and representatives of the Territorial Association, who acted as bearers. The Reveille and Last Post were sounded by Drum Major J. Lawlor.

A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his relatives and to Mr. and Mrs. Phoenix, who have looked after Evans very devotedly.

GUNNER EDWIN BARNBY BARON.
(Royal Garrison Artillery)

WE deeply regret to record the death of E. B. Baron, of Bridlington.

This St. Dunstaner enlisted in 1915, and after two years' service, was discharged in 1917. He did not, however, come to St. Dunstan's until 1922. It was then found impossible for him to take any training as he was a complete invalid. From that time he has suffered tremendously but with an indomitable spirit he has carried on cheerfully in spite of every thing, devotedly nursed by his wife. He had been rather worse for several weeks before his death, which occurred on November 6th, 1937.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades was sent from London, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his widow.

Baron had been a member of the Royal Prince's Parade Good Companions since their formation, and he was made an honorary member only a year ago. A representative of the Good Companions was present at the funeral. A fellow St. Dunstaner, G. Lawty, was also present.

LANCE-CORPORAL ROBERT MUNCASTER.
(Loyal North Lancashire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of R. Muncaster, of Preston.

Muncaster enlisted in 1914, was wounded in 1918, and discharged from the army in 1919, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1925.

Trained as a boot repairer and mat maker, he was, for health reasons, unable to continue with these occupations, and was subsequently settled in a small business, which he carried on for a time. For some years now, however, he has occupied himself with a few poultry, and later found great interest in his allotment. He actually attended the Armistice Day celebrations and put in some work in his garden on the day he was taken ill. He was only in hospital for a short time and died on November 13th.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London, and we extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and little daughter, Olive.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Brighton : Commandant, Quartermaster and Matron

A VERY large number of St. Dunstaners have written to me expressing their sorrow at the death of Miss Thellusson and sympathizing with me in the obviously difficult task of planning the control and staffing of the present Brighton Home and even more so, the new Brighton Home. I thank my correspondents very much for their letters.

We have given the most careful consideration to this matter, which is very important. Miss Thellusson was Commandant-Matron ; she was, as everybody will agree, a most exceptional person ; her great qualities, coupled with her knowledge and experience of St. Dunstan's, were assets which made her irreplaceable.

We have decided upon a course which takes into account the very considerable administrative duties which will arise when the new Home is opened, and also the desirability of continuity so far as men and staff are concerned. Partly because the job in itself will be such an important one, and partly to relieve Headquarters of a great deal of supervision and responsibility, we propose to appoint a man as Commandant of the new Home. The type of man we have in mind is one who will combine the necessary administrative gifts with friendly understanding ; a man who has knocked about the world a bit and is broad-minded ; a man who can at the same time be a Commandant whom all can respect, and a friend. Such an one will be hard to find, but we are at present looking for him, and the appointment will be made as soon as we are assured that the right man has been found, so that he may have the opportunity of learning his job at the present Home, and becoming acquainted with St. Dunstan's work generally.

Under the Commandant will be two posts of equal standing. They will be the Matron—Miss Boyd Rochfort, and the Quartermaster—Miss Elsie Downing.

Miss Boyd Rochfort and Miss Downing have carried on the work of the Home during the past difficult months, and will carry on, I am glad to say, until the new Commandant is appointed, and under him after he is appointed. I am very grateful indeed to these ladies, as I know will be all St. Dunstaners, for the services they have rendered to us and for their promise to go on.

I spoke earlier of continuity. Nothing can provide this better than the continuance in office of Miss Downing and Miss Boyd Rochfort, for they have worked for St. Dunstan's continuously ever since the war years. Miss Downing has served at the College, Ilkley, North Berwick and Brighton ; and Miss Boyd Rochfort at the Bungalow, Townshend House, Headquarters and Brighton. I know that their continuance in the work will give great assurance and pleasure to St. Dunstaners everywhere.

All matters relating to the men and V.A.D.'s will be under Miss Boyd Rochfort, and all matters relating to other staff and household and kitchen departments will be under Miss Downing.

Let me make it quite clear that we have not yet found the man we want for Commandant, and that it may take some weeks or months to find him, for we must be as assured as we can that he is the right sort ; but I have written this note so that all concerned may know how to carry on for the moment, and what plans we have in mind.

Memorials

A number of St. Dunstaners have written or spoken to me about a memorial to Matron. I feel sure it would be the wish of all that we who knew and loved Miss Thellusson should see that some fitting memorial is erected in a suitable place.

Some of the men, including W. A. Biggs, of Leicester, and A. Evans, of Newport, have suggested a headstone for Miss Thellusson's grave in the Brighton Cemetery. Others, including W. H. Collins, of Sompington, have suggested a memorial in the Chapel at the new Brighton Home. Others again, including McLeod, of Cricklade, have suggested a tablet in the new Home.

After consultation with Lady (Arthur) Pearson, and after hearing from a number of the men, we had already decided some months ago that there should be in the new Home a fitting Memorial to Sir Arthur Pearson. St. Dunstaners will remember that we all of us subscribed soon after Sir Arthur's death towards a Memorial Portrait, which was painted by the famous artist Sir William Orpen. This portrait now hangs in the Lounge at Headquarters. We have decided to place it in a prominent position in a special niche in the big Lounge at the new Home.

With regard to Miss Thellusson my own feeling is that whatever memorial is settled upon it should be at the new Home, because it is particularly in connection with the spirit of St. Dunstan's Convalescent Home at Brighton that we will all remember her. However, this is a matter upon which opinions may differ, and I should be glad to have the views of my friends.

Meantime all who have written to me or spoken to me, agree about one thing ; namely, that we would all like to contribute towards a suitable memorial for Matron. It is suggested that the contribution should be not more than one shilling each, so that all can join in and feel they are paying an equal share. Mr. Askew will be pleased to act as Honorary Treasurer of such a Fund, and those who wish to contribute should send their shillings to him.

IAN FRASER.

St. Dunstaner at Broadcasting House

E. BUTLER, of Hayes, and his guide dog, Greta, took part in the Regional programme on December 11th, when Mr. Oliver Whiting gave a talk on "Eyes for the Blind." Our St. Dunstaner told listeners how Greta helped him, and Greta barked her approval.

Butler writes : " When the commissioner saw me going through with Greta he called out, ' You can't take the dog with you,' but Mr. Whiting explained that Greta was part of the talk and she was allowed to go on her way. Off we went, up in the lift to the studio. What struck

me most was the quietness everywhere, but it was certainly a great moment when the announcer came to my side and said, ' This is the Regional Programme—a talk on " Eyes for the Blind." ' I hoped sincerely that the talk would be a help to blind people who were listening, and that if they decided to have a guide dog, they would get as much pleasure from their true and trusted companion as I do."

A Marriage

" Sambo" (R. A. Inskipp) marries Miss Lily Violet James, of Wandsworth, at the Registry Office, Eastern Road, Romford, on January 26th at three o'clock.

Brighton News

CHRISTMAS at the Brighton annexe went with a great swing. The house was full and one hundred and twenty sat down to the Christmas dinner. Sister Boyd Rochfort read telegrams from Lady Arthur and Sir Neville Pearson and absent friends, including E. Denny, of South Africa. After dinner Tim Healey paid a fitting tribute to the memory of our beloved Matron, and A. Evans presented a travelling writing case to Miss Downing, on behalf of the boys, assuring her at the same time of their help and support in the future. Miss Downing was deeply grateful for this expression of loyalty and the way in which everyone helped to make Christmas the great success it was at Brighton.

The decorations, as usual, were very artistic and effective. Sir Ian and Lady Fraser came down from London on Christmas night to join the boys in the lounge, and swelled the numerous other

R.A.O.B. News

From W. Lowings, of Eastleigh :—

"Congratulations to Bro. Chamberlain on his obtaining the second degree. St. Dunstaner Brethren will be pleased to know that the Rt. Hon. Sir William Lowings has been unanimously elected to the highest office that any Brother can hold except Grand Primo, and is Provincial Grand Primo of the Province of Southampton for 1938.

"Fraternal and Brotherly greetings for the New Year."

[Our hearty congratulations, Lowings !
—ED.]

The Revolt in the Desert

PERHAPS one of the most outstanding epics in the Great War was that of the late Col. T. E. Lawrence, D.S.O.

Thomas Edward Lawrence was educated at Jesus College, Oxford, and specialized in Oriental languages. He spent some years in Arabia, Syria and Mesopo-

A Happy New Year to all readers of the Review.

prizes with 10s. notes. There were games and competitions and all thoroughly enjoyed the party.

On New Year's Eve the usual big dance in the lounge was held and the New Year welcomed in at midnight. There were a great number of spot marches and dances which added greatly to the fun of the evening.

One particularly enjoyable feature of the week's programme was the presentation of a potted version of *Bluebeard*, given in the lounge by the Sisters, styled the West Cot Wanderers. The audience were kept in roars of laughter, and the jokes were both smart and topical. It seems as if Hollywood, the B.B.C. and Elstree will have to look to their laurels if the West Cot Wanderers decide to remain in the entertainment business!

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. Davies, of Middlesbrough, whose silver wedding was on August 20th last, and to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hornsby, of Sheffield, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Chiverton, of Portchester, who celebrated their anniversaries on December 25th.

tamia mastering the Arabic dialects.

Just prior to May, 1916, Lawrence had strongly urged a revolt of the Arabs against the Turks, and in that month, as the Emir of Mecca had been threatened by the arrival of 3,000 picked Turkish troops in Medina, this was a sufficient cause for Lawrence to make representations to Cairo. The revolt broke out on June 5th, 1916, and the whole history of the campaign is related in *The Revolt in the Desert*, by Lawrence.

In the main, Lorrens Bey, as the Arabs called him, tells of the raids upon the Hedjaz Railway, from Ma'an to Dera'a, with the ultimate capture of Damascus.

Early in July, 1917, Akaba had been captured from the Turks, and Sherif Feisal was able to move up. This allowed operations and propaganda to be extended much further northwards.

History, travel and daring adventure, with intimate details in a phase of the lives of the late King Feisal, and his brother Ali, the pro-Turkish obstinacy of King Hussein, besides that of Lawrence himself, make this one of the outstanding books in the Talking Book Library.

"BOOKWORM"

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

Reading in the December issue, Fallowfield's remarks, I am prompted to send the following:

A blind man, Jack Metcalfe ("Blind Jack"), surveyed and made the first metalled roads in England. In 1765 Metcalfe, while walking from London to Harrogate, was struck by the appalling state of "roads". He undertook the construction of three miles of road in Yorkshire and was so successful that he was given a further contract for 177 miles. He did all the measuring for cuttings, etc. His roads are still in use.

One hundred and fifty years ago a blind man, Carrol, was executed for being too clever. On entering a room Carrol could tell by stamping his foot in which drawers jewellery was kept. Burglars used him as a detector and this brought about his end.

Yours sincerely,
A. V. LAW.

GOTHERINGTON.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

Some three or four years ago I wrote a letter in the REVIEW to see how many St. Dunstan's men were interested in chess so as to form a club. Nothing came of it as very few men seem to play the game, but I have found out that quite a number do play draughts, so I am wondering if something could be done here.

I would like all the men who are interested to send a post-card to the REVIEW; then perhaps we could form a small committee to form a club and arrange for games to be played. Men in and around London could have an evening at Headquarters, but we outside would have to do ours through the post. Maybe very few of the men have played correspondence game, but they should have no difficulty in picking it up. Trusting you will have a big response to this letter.

Yours sincerely,
PETER T. MASKELL.

ROCHESTER.

(Now then, draughts players, send along your post-cards.—ED.)

Miss Downing's Thanks

DEAR BOYS,

Just *ever* so many thanks to you and your wives for your thoughts of me this Christmas. I appreciate more than I can say all the beautifully worded cards I have received from you. It must have taken such lots of thought to choose them which I value even more than the cards.

With my very good wishes to you all, your wives and families, for every possible good luck and happiness in 1938.

Your friend,
ELSIE DOWNING.

Garden Topics

A. J. HOLLAND, of Rushden, who before the War was a professional gardener, and who has in recent years been a successful exhibitor at many local shows, has agreed to write a series of gardening talks for the REVIEW. Here is the first.

I propose each month to give a few very good hints on the way to grow just a few flowers, most of them suitable for cutting for the house.

The flowers will be antirrhinums, asters (special sorts), carnations, sweet peas, and early flowering chrysanthemums.

If you have a sunny border against the house, the best thing to grow is antirrhinums. If there are no plants on it now, dig it up at once. Do not put any manure on. These are better without it. Leave the ground rough, and dust 2 ozs. of hydrate of lime to the square yard. Put this on at once and let the rain wash it in (do not dig it in) and do not put soot on with it.

The other sorts of flowers I have mentioned are best grown on a piece of ground right in the open, away from all trees and in full sunshine. If you have such a piece of ground, and some good manure (*not* fresh poultry manure as it is too hot), dig this well in, and leave rough, and then put the lime on the top as I have stated. Lime is not a manure, but is a fine thing to make the soil healthy, but it should not be sown amongst growing plants. If your soil is on chalk you will not want the lime.

Next month: How to prepare the sweet pea trench.

Honour for a St. Dunstan's Shopkeeper

W. Shakspeare, of Birmingham, has been unanimously elected president of the South Birmingham Branch of the Retail Newsagents' Federation. In our opinion, he is an ideal man for the position. He has always been very interested in all affairs affecting newsagents ever since he started in his trade, and he has been on the council of his branch of the Federation for the past eight years.

We are always pleased to hear of men taking an active part in local affairs, for in the case of shopkeepers in particular, it is a very good thing to have interests in activities outside the shop, but which are of vital interest to the business in general.

Invitation from German War-Blinded

Last July we had the pleasure of meeting at Headquarters a party of war-blinded German soldiers, headed by Herr August Martens.

Since their return to Germany, Sir Ian Fraser has had a letter from Herr Martens in which an invitation is extended to a limited number of St. Dunstaners (each with a sighted male escort) to be the guests of German war-blinded men in their Rest Home during the months of July or August.

If there are any St. Dunstaners who are contemplating a trip to the Continent this year during either of those months, and would like to take advantage of this very generous offer and visit one of the Homes (there are three), Sir Ian would like to have their names. The Homes are situated by the sea and in the beautiful German mountains.

The friendly spirit which prompted the visit of our German comrades last year, and the goodwill on both sides which resulted, will be one of the happiest memories of 1937. This further friendly and generous gesture is very deeply appreciated.

Miss Gracie Fields' Honour

St. Dunstaners were delighted to hear of the honour of C.B.E. which has been bestowed on Miss Gracie Fields by the King.

Gracie has always been a very good friend of St. Dunstan's and has given her services generously. On behalf of St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners, Mr. Swain sent a letter of congratulation on January 3rd, to which Gracie replied: "Thank you very much indeed for your letter of congratulations. I really do appreciate the kind thought which prompted you to write. Please convey my thanks to everyone concerned."

Competition Corner

Most St. Dunstaners have a hobby. What is yours, or what is the queerest hobby you have ever come across? Ten shillings will be awarded to the sender of the most interesting letter. Closing date, February 4th.

A. J. Radford, of Castle Cary, wins ten shillings for the best entry in last month's competition, "My last Christmas in the firing line."

The Quest

Slowly I made my way up the carpeted stairs, my left hand feeling the way as it moved along the banister. I must search that bedroom in the dark. Nine, ten, eleven; three more stairs and I should arrive at the landing. Fourteen stairs, turn left, follow the hand-rail forward five paces. It would take me to that bedroom door. I had not forgotten the details. A good memory combined with a light touch of my well-trained fingers would see me through this job. On I went, silently counting stairs and paces, whilst my hand moved forward, still feeling its way along the rail. Four, five paces; one more, then, cautiously I put out my right hand as I went forward. I felt for that door, but my hand touched nothing. That bedroom door must have been left open, and now for my search.

I dare not walk upright around that room. My feet might destroy all my hopes. So down on my hands and knees I made my way forward, my hands reaching out before me, feeling around. Ah, was I to be lucky in my search? My hand alighted on something hard and bony. Was I to be so quickly successful? My fingers closed around it, and, kneeling almost upright I brought the object to my other hand. My fingers felt deftly around it. Yes, its head moved. My luck was in. Quickly I slipped it into my pocket, and, rising from my knees, turned and cautiously made my exit through that open doorway. My outstretched hand found the rail. Five paces, turn right, fourteen stairs. I moved forward, turned, and made my way carefully, my hand lightly moving along, feeling its way down the banister. Twelve, thirteen, fourteen; I had reached the bottom of the stairs. I turned, and less cautiously felt my way through an open doorway to another room. Groping around with my hands I found a chair into which I sank. A smile of triumph hovered over my face; I had been successful. Putting my hand into my pocket I pulled out the object of that search. A gleam of satisfaction should have been seen in my eyes, but the Great War had taken those gleams and left me sightless, but blind though I was, I had found my collar stud.

R. Z. H., Lowestoft.

New Zealand Notes

THE St. Dunstan's group in New Zealand numbers twenty-eight, of whom eighteen had their happy months of training at St. Dunstan's, and ten, losing their sight after their return to the Dominion, are newer, but just as enthusiastic, members. Being scattered over a sparsely settled country a thousand miles long has not prevented us holding together as a vigorous, friendly body. Three societies working in harmony hold us together—the Commercial Travellers' Blinded Soldiers' Trustees, who administer a generous fund for after-care purposes; the New Zealand Institute for the Blind, which supplies training, permanent employment, talking book, Braille library and other technical services, and the New Zealand Blinded Soldiers' Association. These bodies, acting together, organize periodic reunions, of which a most successful one was held in Christchurch in Coronation Week. In Auckland, which has the largest local group, frequent small social evenings are held, especially when St. Dunstaners from other parts of the Dominion are paying visits.

Four of us are still active masseurs—Donald McPhee, on the staff of the Auckland Public Hospital; Jack McGuone (many will remember that Mrs. McGuone was Sister Padbury), who has a good sporting connection in Wellington; W. T. Woods, who has a war hospital and private practice in Christchurch; and J. N. McIntosh, also in Christchurch, who operates Turkish baths in conjunction with his sporting connection. Andrew Johnston is kept tremendously busy as one of the leading evangelical mission workers in the Dominion. Various forms of farming occupy a number of the fellows—Jim Chisholm, in the far north, has a succession of good things growing in his mild sub-tropic climate—peaches, strawberries, oranges, corn, potatoes, etc., plus a few head of stock and poultry. Jack Ireland is an active bee-keeper, and has built up in connection with it a good trade in apiary joinery. Jack McGill has been a successful dairy-farmer for many years, but has just sold his place, and leaves for Scotland shortly, where Mrs. McGill went a few months ago to give their daughter special studies in the violin. Charles Johnston and Alfred Corey, both

of Christchurch, are keen poultry farmers while George Hooper has a hill farm near Wellington. Cyril Moloney, Harry Sime, Tom Roberts, Jack Simpson and Alec Grant are in regular employment at trades, principally basket making, at the New Zealand Institute for the Blind.

Where numbers are so limited, it has been found of mutual advantage to both groups that blinded soldiers should co-operate closely with the civilian blind, and since the war St. Dunstaners in New Zealand have played a leading part in greatly widening the field of opportunity for our civilian brothers and sisters, raising large sums of money for them, and assisting actively in the administration of the New Zealand Institute for the Blind. Donald McPhee is a Trustee of the Institute and has been instrumental in establishing splendidly successful social, athletic and rowing clubs, modelled on St. Dunstan's lines. W. T. Woods has devoted himself for the past fifteen years, as a voluntary service, to supervising the welfare of the blind of Christchurch and North Canterbury, while Neil Campbell assisted in the raising of the New Zealand section of the Sir Arthur Pearson Memorial Fund. The other St. Dunstaners and myself, too, working at the Institute, do our best to keep things always on the forward march.

The visit of Sir Ian and Lady Fraser three years ago, was, of course, a red-letter occasion, and we wish most heartily they could come more often. We were lucky, too, to have Lady Pearson here for a few days seven years earlier.

It is safe to say that the members of our little community are just as live St. Dunstaners as ever they were—St. Dunstan's is still our inspiration.

CLUTHA N. MACKENZIE.

□ □ □

W. H. Hill, of Liverpool, who is well known locally as a tenor, sang before an audience of three thousand recently at the Empire Theatre, Liverpool. The occasion was a grand concert in aid of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society.

Jill is now telephonist at Bootle Labour Exchange, having been transferred from Liverpool after thirteen years.

More Coincidences

Our Coincidences Competition has ended but the entries which were sent in (some of them, in fact, after the closing date) were so good that we make no apology for printing some more of them.

R. Middlemiss, of Birmingham, was the sender of the first coincidence published last month. His name was inadvertently omitted.

□ □ □

It was a lovely winter morning. There was a covering of frozen snow on the roads but the sun had risen in a cloudless sky. The battalion was going on a thirty-mile route march and I, who had been employed in the company orderly room for months, thought I was due a holiday and should like to join them. I went—in a pair of new boots—and during the midday halt a kindly R.A.M.C. Corporal removed the numerous blisters from the soles of my feet and dressed them lavishly with iodine. I struggled on until about four miles from home when I was forced to take refuge in one of the company's transport carts. I knew the driver by sight but he was a quiet soul and perhaps his humour suited me very well that day.

Six months later, in June, 1915, I was learning to swim in Aboukir Bay, near Alexandria. A sudden, and to me unapparent, improvement in technique had taken me beyond my usual beat, and when I attempted to rejoin my companions I found that despite my sternest efforts I was being steadily carried farther away. I felt it was time to call for help, and after I had been down more than once and had swallowed more of the Mediterranean than I cared for, three strong swimmers reached me and succeeded, after a hard struggle, in getting me to the beach. The first of these three to arrive was the transport driver.

We were never to see each other again. But we were to meet many, many times and to become very good friends, for we were both blinded on Gallipoli within a month of each that same summer.

As far as I am aware Arthur Heriot and I were the only members of the 5th Bn. H.L.I. ever to become St. Dunstaners. He has gone from us now, but we who knew him will always remember him as one of the best of quiet, unassuming, good fellows.

DUMFRIES.

CHAS. MCINTOSH,

Being in my babyhood as a St. Dunstaner, I am, as the saying goes, "backward in coming forward," but the interesting coincidences of my comrades, prompts me to send one I am proud of.

In April, 1919, I received the sack from the Army, thus bringing my career as an acting full-blown private without pay, to an end.

That summer I received a motor cycle combination as a present, and at Christmas, 1919, 1920 and 1921, I put my bus to the best use possible, bringing it into action by assisting my brother and his party in their efforts to raise funds for St. Dunstan's through their Carol League.

I went round with the carol-singers on my bike which I had decorated for the occasion. One evening was set apart for a tour of the residential houses. You should have seen your humble servant, after rendering the postman's knock and receiving what I had knocked for, jumping over party railings and walls, to the next house. If I had exercised better manners by going through one gateway and into the other, I would have lost time and my ambition was to call on as many houses as possible before the party moved on. At home, my fiancée, now my wife, was ready to help to open the tins, and what joy it gave us when shuffling the coppers, to see the silver coins appearing in the picture. This process carried us into the early hours of the morning, because the tins had to be sealed again ready for the next trip. Christmas, 1922 and 1923, saw my brother's party still in harness, but I was in a nursing home, and by 1923 I was a helpless wreck. From this time and until 1936, I had not the slightest idea—I should become a registered St. Dunstaner. Now, as I lay helpless on my bed I have pleasant recollections of those days, blessed with perfect sight I tried to do my duty for my less fortunate comrades who were blind. I am happy (although loss of sight was a terrific blow to me) to be one of St. Dunstan's happy family and very proud to be wearing its badge.

So here's success to the home of St. Dunstaners, and Health, Happiness, and Prosperity to St. Dunstaners, one and all, is the wish of—
SALFORD, BRISTOL. G. S. CHAPPELL.

During a bombardment near Ypres in 1915, the parapet was blown in only about four yards from me, partly burying my platoon sergeant. When extricated it was found that his back was injured, and all he could do was to sit and load three rifles whilst my chum and I fired them.

Time went on and I was trained as masseur, eventually being engaged at an institution in Sheffield. In 1922 a patient was placed in my hands, and I was instructed to treat his back. As usual I asked the patient how the injury occurred, and he told me he had been buried. As we have to deal with so many pit accident cases I asked if the accident in question had thus happened. I was informed that it happened in France. Naturally I was more interested by this time, and tracked the man down from division to brigade, battalion, company, and eventually to platoon. It was my platoon sergeant.

You can imagine the surprise we both had on discovering this. When I told the patient my name, he remembered it well, but did not recognize me at the moment. I suppose he tried to remember me in khaki, and found it somewhat difficult when looking at me in a white smock.

SHEFFIELD.

C. GREAVES.

□ □ □

Young St. Dunstaner, Christopher McCairn, has been presented with the Royal Humane Society's certificate for rescuing a boy who fell into a canal last summer.

Well done, Christopher!

"In Memory"

PRIVATE JOHN FRANCIS BESLEY
(*Royal Army Service Corps*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of J. F. Besley, of Cheltenham.

Besley enlisted in 1916, and as a result of his service during the Great War lost his sight, and also suffered from other disabilities. He was never able to take up any occupation, but led quite a full and happy life with his friends. Apparently he was quite well in health until just shortly before his death, which occurred very suddenly on the 30th December.

The funeral took place a few days later, and was attended by his many friends in the district. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades at St. Dunstan's.

CORPORAL WILLIAM COX
(*6th South Staffordshire Regiment*)

We deeply regret to announce the death of W. Cox, of Balham.

Cox was wounded at the Battle of Loos in 1917, as a result of which he lost his sight. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1918, and was trained in boot-repairing and mat-making, at which he continued until the latter part of last year, when he was suddenly taken ill. He was admitted to hospital, but he died there a short time later.

The funeral took place at Streatham Cemetery, and was attended by his relatives and friends. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades at St. Dunstan's. We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Cox and her children in their bereavement.

PRIVATE WILLIAM DAVID JOHN
(*Army Service Corps*)

We deeply regret to announce the death of W. D. John, of Swansea.

John enlisted in 1914, and served in France until 1917, when he was severely wounded, and as a result lost his sight, and also his left arm. He came to St. Dunstan's for training, and in due course started a grocery and confectionery business. After a few years he had to give this up on account of ill-health, and since then had led a very quiet existence. His death came as a great shock to his many friends, as he had only been ill for about a week.

The funeral took place at Mumbles, Swansea, and was attended by his many relatives and friends. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to his relatives.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Tuesday Night Concert

Miss Zucker's concert will take place at Headquarters on February 22nd, at 8.

The next meeting of the **Brighton Sports Club** will be on Wednesday, February 16th, at 5 p.m.

Young St. Dunstaners

Ronnie, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Davies, of Middlesbrough, has won a scholarship for St. Mary's School, Middlesbrough.

☆ ☆ ☆

Violet, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, of Froyd, Abergele, has won the silver medal for singing at Walton Musical Festival.

☆ ☆ ☆

Rosie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, of Dover, has gained a scholarship to attend Folkestone Commercial School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Edward, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, of Sprotborough, who is thirteen, has passed the pianoforte examination of the Royal School of Music, Grade V, with honourable mention.

Death

JONES.—We extend our sincere sympathy this month to W. T. Jones, of Farnham Common, Slough, whose wife passed away on December 18th.

Death of Mr. J. N. Leigh

Poultry farmers will learn with regret of the death of Mr. J. N. Leigh, for several years manager of the National Laying Test.

Mr. Leigh has been consistently helpful and interested in St. Dunstan's poultry farmers. Of late years a special section of the National Trials has been reserved for St. Dunstan's competitors, due, in great measure, to the interest Mr. Leigh had in us.

Miss Thelluson

Fain would our hearts deny the speech

Of our slow tears,

How can these sightless eyes feign gladness

When from each appears

The crystal streams that marked the passing of a friend ;

Our Beloved Matron giving joy and service to the end. W. A. M.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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EDITORIAL

FOUR months ago, an appeal appeared on this page for contributions, suggestions, and criticism. For a while, there was a good response. Many St. Dunstaners promptly put the action to the word by sending in some excellent articles there and then. These appeared as soon as it was possible to use them. Others sent in suggestions, some of which we have already acted upon—a monthly gardening article, for instance. And criticism? Well, we asked for it! “Your plaintive cry,” wrote G. W. Killingbeck, “stirred something within me, although as an old soldier, I do not know how you dare ask for *harsh* criticism. Such could not be published in ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW!” However, that did not deter Killingbeck from peppering us with some well-directed shots, all of which were appreciated and some of which have already led to good results.

J. S. Whitelam, of Westcliff-on-Sea, was another who, to use his own words, “did his best to help burst the bounds of the eight-page limit”—and a very good best it was.

Interest has fallen off a little lately, but probably this is only temporary. Anyhow, we remind readers once again that contributions, suggestions, and criticism, are still welcomed.

Competitions

One of Whitelam's suggestions was a “Queer Hobbies” competition. He thought—and we thought too—that it would be interesting to hear of the various hobbies of our men. Last month we announced a competition on these lines. Only two entries were received. Now we know that most St. Dunstaners have a hobby, and we can only come to the conclusion that they are not so keen on writing about them. This brings us to a point which we haven't perhaps made quite clear before. In a competition of this kind, a St. Dunstaner need not refrain from entering because he feels that he “can't put it together”. It doesn't matter a row of beans how the article is written. It is the idea we want, although, as a matter of fact, we have found in the past that the man who has been apologetic about the English and style of something he has written, has often produced something a great deal more readable than his more polished rivals.

Once again then we ask for suggestions for further competitions—but one word of advice. Forecasting football results may be a very attractive pastime, but as a competition for the REVIEW it is out of the question. These contests have been declared illegal, and therefore we must regretfully count them out.

One item in the REVIEW which does not lose its popularity is its own Derby Sweepstake, which, for the eighth successive year, is announced on another page. This is a competition for which every St. Dunstaner can enter, including overseas men. The Derby will be run on June 1st, but by announcing it in the February issue, even men in Australia have time to enter. Some years ago one of the big prizes went to South Africa.

Here's jolly good luck to all who enter.

Bible Lost on Battlefield

Restored by St. Dunstaner

LAST August, Captain Sir Ian Fraser received a letter from J. B. Wheeler, of Birmingham, in which he mentioned that he had picked up a New Testament while going up to the line in France during the War, containing the inscription, "Pte. J. Walker, 60 A.I.F., with best wishes from Rev. J. T. Hall, Church of Scotland Chaplain, N. 8 Clearing Station, B.E.F. 21:7:16." He added that there was blood over the back page of the book.

After he was wounded, the Testament was sent home with the rest of his kit, put away, and forgotten until recently, when it was discovered in the course of cleaning. Wishing to restore it to its owner, he asked Sir Ian the best way to go about it.

Sir Ian decided that the best thing to do was to get in touch with the head of the Australian Legion, Captain Sir Gilbert Dyett, C.M.G. and he wrote to him forthwith, enclosing full details.

Sir Gilbert promptly had a notice containing all the relevant facts inserted in Australian newspapers, and as a result of it, a reply was received last month from the owner of the Testament, now living at Streaky Bay, South Australia; Wheeler has now returned the Testament to him.

★ ★ ★

R. J. WILLIAMS, of Southwick, a deaf-blind St. Dunstaner, is one of our keenest rowing men, and at the Regatta last year he met Herr Voigt, one of our German war-blinded visitors. He subsequently wrote to Herr Voigt and has now had a very friendly and cordial reply.

Herr Voigt says that he has reported his party's most happy and successful visit to this country, and St. Dunstan's, to his own war-blinded colleagues, and they have received the greetings of their British comrades with real pleasure. Herr Voigt asks Williams to give his personal greetings and good wishes to all St. Dunstan's men and in particular, to those he met during his visit to England last July.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bright of King's Cross who celebrated their Silver Wedding anniversary on February 9th.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to the article from P. Maskell of Rochester, I wish to support his suggestion on the question of "Draught Competitions," but the point on correspondence games would not hold very much interest for the ardent draught player. Please let me tender my suggestion. Seeing that St. Dunstaners are in every part of the country, it would be a good idea for St. Dunstaners who are anxious to establish themselves as keen draught players to submit their names to the REVIEW, then games could be arranged periodically according to the locality of the men, the games could then be played in groups and the final at Headquarters.

I myself, am very interested in draughts and not wishing to be too informal, I submit this as a challenge to any St. Dunstaner who would care to accept.

W. F. SHAYLOR, Walton, Liverpool.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

I wonder if any St. Dunstaners can beat our little "record"?

We are three, living within ten minutes' walk of each other, Taylor, Alexander and myself, and we are all members of the Old Contemptibles' Association, Bournemouth and District Branch. J. McANDREW, Bournemouth.

Garden Topics

HOW to prepare your ground for Sweet Peas.

If you want to grow long spikes of flowers, take the top spit of soil out two feet wide along the row. If the subsoil is very poor, it is better to remove it and put other good soil in its place, and then give just a dressing of *rotten* manure or spent hops. Rotten leaves or peat would do, or a little burnt rubbish. Any of these want well mixing in the bottom spit. If you do not remove the subsoil you can work this in it the same, putting the top soil back. Do not put manure in this; it will be a little higher when you have finished, but leave it rough, and dust over with lime. Next month I will tell you what to do with it.

The best place to get your sweet pea and the other plants I wrote about last month is from Edmunds & Co., Milton, Cambridge. Fine stuff at the right price. For early chrysanthemums I recommend J. W. Cole & Son, Midland Road Nursery, Peterborough, who are specialists. I should state that you are of St. Dunstan's, and you will get some good stuff.

Next month: When to get these plants.

A. J. HOLLAND

Hobbies

From A. J. Radford of Castle Cary:—

I have many hobbies. One is writing letters on topical events for the newspapers, and deriving great satisfaction from the publication of the minority of them, and the ensuing correspondence with readers who write personally. A second hobby is writing short stories that never get published, and my main hobby is or has been, the gardens and poultry. I have a very special hobby in filling up a football coupon weekly. I find that the coupon makes for concentrated interest, and increases the ability to maintain conversation, even as correspondence keeps one in touch with other people. My daughter fills in the coupon and I try to memorize the former results and form from the wireless. This is good, almost like Pelmanism. I try my level best to maintain a series of "hobbies" that keep hand and brain active, but which also are practical and something in which somebody of whatever company one is in, will also be keenly interested.

Writing short stories that are never published may seem a bit crazy but it keeps one's mind away from personal trivialities, the braille machine comes into play for skeleton building and reference, and when a story is accepted there is unspeakable joy that makes up for the others. Hardly a day goes by without I find I have need of one or the other of my "hobbies" for after all, a hobby is really something in which one is keenly interested but cannot devote full time. I combine sport, and mental and physical interest, in my variety of hobbies, which leaves me just enough time to carry on my main hobby of mat-making.

Derby Sweepstake, 1938

FOR the eighth year in succession we announce our own Derby Sweepstake.

It must be pointed out that the competition is confined strictly to St. Dunstaners, and that tickets will on no account be issued to anyone else.

RULES

1. The price of tickets is 2s. 6d. each.
 2. The total amount subscribed will, with the exception of the actual cost of printing and postage involved, be distributed as follows:—
Fifty per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.
Twenty per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.
Ten per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.
Twenty per cent to be equally divided among all those who hold tickets drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.
 3. Application for tickets can be made at once and will be received up to the first post on **Monday, May 23rd.** Every application must bear the name and address of the sender, and envelopes must be plainly marked "Derby Competition."
- Tickets will be despatched in rotation, and must be produced before payment of prize money is made.

Competitions

As there were not sufficient entries to justify a contest in last month's "Hobbies" competition, the prize of ten shillings has been held over. The subject of this month's competition is: "My Most Amusing Experience." Closing date: March 3rd.

The Connoisseur

Hobby? Well, no, he would not call it a hobby, although he had been a collector for many years. You see, he did not believe in hoarding. Had he done so, his collection would by now have been a rare one. No! Possession and disposal for him. Long experience had developed that keen eye for spotting, and the art of valuation of any find. His objective rather more than his own personality did, to say the least, give him that feeling of friendly expectancy not enjoyed by collectors of less standing, and the path of any dwelling in the neighbourhood was his to tread.

Yet, truth to tell, although at his home in the evening, leisure time would be spent in scrutinising his finds, he could not say his collecting was a hobby, and hoisting up the well filled dust-bin, the local dustman took possession of its contents.

R. Z. H., Lowestoft.

From Sister Huffam

To all her St. Dunstan friends.

"I am so very sorry that owing to my operation and going up to Yorkshire as soon as I left hospital, I was not able to say 'Au revoir'. I do indeed hope to meet many of you again, but my doctor insists upon me staying lazy for some time. Thank you all so much for your very kind letters and messages.

"I have loved my eighteen years with you and only wish I had your wonderful patience. The best of good luck to you all."

Minister of Labour meets a St. Dunstaner

When Mr. Ernest Brown, Minister of Labour, visited Shepherd's Bush Labour Exchange recently, he was told of our St. Dunstaner, G. D. Warden, who is telephonist there. The Minister asked to see Warden, and spent some while chatting with him. He was particularly interested in the working of the switchboard and asked Warden many questions.

Talking Books

Here are some more books which are being added to the Library:—

Green Mansions, by W. H. Hudson.

Read by Eric Gillett.

A romance of a tropical forest.

Arches of the Years, by Halliday Sutherland.

Read by Eric Gillett.

An autobiography full of lively and amusing anecdotes.

Raggle-Taggle, by Walter Starkie.

Read by E. le Breton Martin.

Travels with a fiddle in Hungary.

Talleyrand, by Duff Cooper.

Read by Alexandre Lyons.

A political biography of an outstanding figure of the French Revolution.

Great Contemporaries, by The Rt. Hon.

Winston Churchill.

Read by A. E. McDonald.

Essays on great men of our age.

The Wallet of Kai-Lung, by Ernest Bramah.

Read by Alan Howland.

A "Chinese" story-teller in satirical vein.

Spanish Gold, by George A. Birmingham.

Read by A. E. Bayley.

A very amusing story of buried treasure.

Peter Jackson—Cigar Merchant, by Gilbert Frankau.

Read by E. le Breton Martin.

A romance of married life, during the war period.

The Mystery of the Yellow Room, by Gaston Leroux.

Read by J. R. T. Matthews.

A French detective story.

The Book of the Aeroplane, by Capt. J. L. Pritchard.

Read by J. R. T. Matthews.

The development of the aeroplane from the early days of flying.

H. V. K.

National Laying Test

Each competitor has nominated a bird in his pen as the best. These compete for an award at the end of the year. The temporary position of the No. 1 birds to the end of the third month is as follows:

R. E. Hill,	No. 3433	W. W.	68
G. C. Jackson,	No. 3361	R. I. R.	63
P. Holmes,	No. 3355	W. W.	62

Report for the third period of four weeks, November 29th to December 26th, 1937.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Campbell, J.	...	305
2	Knopp, H. A.	...	257
3	Holmes, Percy	...	243
4	Jarvis, Albert	...	230
4	Jackson, G. C.	...	230
4	Carpenter, E. H.	...	230
7	Brown, M. Watson	...	228
8	Fisher, T. M.	...	220
9	Fisher, T. M.	...	212
10	Powell, G.	...	208
11	Gwyn, A. Ivor	...	191
12	Holmes, Percy	...	190
13	Hammett, H. A.	...	185
14	McLaren, David	...	183
15	Roberts, Harry	...	180
16	Hamilton, B.	...	176
17	Smith, W. Alan	...	161
18	Hill, R. E.	...	150
19	Hamilton, B.	...	148
20	Smith, W. Alan	...	143
21	McIntosh, Charles	...	132
22	Capper, A. H.	...	130
23	Brown, C. H.	...	126
24	Stock, C. H.	...	119
25	Chaffin, Albert	...	117
26	McLaren, David	...	100
27	Capper, A. H.	...	46
28	Woodcock, W. J.	...	45
29	Webb, W. ...	...	38

Honour for a St. Dunstan's Masseur

Congratulations to W. T. Scott, of Streatham, who has been invited by the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics to fill a vacancy on their Council, his term of office covering the period until September, 1939.

Our St. Dunstaner is already Chairman of the Association of Certificated Blind Masseurs, and the following is taken from the current number of the Journal of the Association: "The Chairman of the A.C.B.M. has rendered conspicuous service to the Massage movement, and has given unlimited time to Council and Committee work. His selection by the Chartered Society to fill this vacancy is a very signal honour, and the Association may congratulate itself on Mr. Scott being again associated so closely with the Chartered Society's work as one of its Council."

Win or Lose

BY A CORRESPONDENT

YET another boxing contest has been decided on points at night, and on points of view next morning. The match was between two alleged thugs, whom I will pseudonymically describe as Battling Bronco and Bashing Bonzo, and, after a dozen rounds of very pretty footwork and no fistwork that one could notice, the referee came out of a coma and the fight was awarded to Bronco on points.

So far, so good.

Next day, however, several boxing writers, and one or two authorities on boxing as well, pointed out that, as far as they could see it was Bonzo, and not Bronco, who was the real winner.

Bonzo himself modestly confirmed this point of view in the following well-chosen and epoch-making words—"I was given a raw deal. I had Bronco cold from the gong. I could whip that big stiff with one of his hands tied behind his back. Of course, I won."

There the matter stands. Meanwhile Bronco and Bonzo tell the world in penetrating print that they were both victors—taking very good care not to arrange another point to find out which is really right.

While being a trifle puzzling to the public, this yet seems to me to be a very admirable way of settling sporting events. It is a really practical expression of the League of Nations spirit, which sets out to prove that both sides to an argument are invariably in the right, and so, of course, saves a lot of heart burning and ill feeling.

For this very reason, I should like to see the notion introduced into other sports as well. It is quite obvious that, under the present relentless system of win or lose, regrettable feeling is caused among supporters. Arsenal followers, for example, can hardly be expected to exhibit a very Christian feeling on Saturday nights, when their team win only a crushing *moral* victory by eight goals to none against them.

The introduction of the Boxing System into other sports would alter all this naughty feeling among partisans.

Take football, for example. Perhaps points could be deducted for fouls. Thus, one would see one's hated rivals four goals up at one moment and a little later

on a goal down, a goal having been deducted for each of four fouls, and one awarded to the other side for a fifth piece of dirty work.

Another good way to secure victory, of course, would be to adopt another idea from boxing and to see that the losers only had a small share of the gate, or even none at all. This would effectually liven up some of our more languid teams.

At cricket, points might be awarded in a similar way. It would be style that would count. Mr. P. G. H. Fender's sweaters, under this system of points for style, would have been worth fifty runs to Surrey at any time.

In addition, of course, there would be the advantage that, even if one side were beaten, it could always claim the victory next day. Thus, Surrey having been decimated by the Local Gasworks Team by an innings and a couple of therms, could indignantly proclaim that they had been given a raw deal and that the Gasworks would all have been out for nothing, had they not foully cemented the stumps into the ground and glued the bails on top of them.

It would not be the best team that would win, but the one with the best *flair* for the Brave British Boxing Spirit!

Everyone, in fact, would see to it that they won either by foul means or *flair*.

The Helen Keller Award, 1938

DURING a visit to Scotland, Miss Helen Keller left a sum of money to be used in the interests of the deaf-blind. It has been decided that every three years the interest on this sum (approximately £10) is to be awarded to the winner of an essay about the deaf-blind. This year the subject of the essay is:—

"Games and Activities for the Deaf-Blind."

The essay may be written in Braille. All essays should be sent to the Rev. G. Nicholson, Scottish Association for the Deaf, 3 Midlothian Drive, Glasgow, S.1, Scotland, not later than April 30th, 1938.

Essays should be signed by a *nom de plume*, and the competitor's name and address should be enclosed in a sealed envelope.

The competition is open to sighted people as well as the deaf-blind.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

TUESDAY NIGHT CONCERT.
February 22nd, at 8 p.m.—Miss Zucker's Concert.

9-Mile Walk

THE 9-mile Inter-Club handicap walk took place at Regent's Park on Saturday, January 29th. The weather was fine but cold and very windy.

Owing to road repairs in the Outer Circle it was found necessary to mark a route round the Inner Circle, across the park and around the available part of the Outer Circle, a change that was enjoyed by all.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser officiated as starter to a good field of competitors and escorts, who were followed twenty minutes later by Highgate Harriers and Stock Exchange Teams who competed as teams against St. Dunstan's for the first time in a race of this kind. Unfortunately Enfield Harriers had to scratch from this event owing to sickness among their members.

After a splendid race the first three home were, A. Brown, 80.58, P. Ashton, 81.47, J. Jerome, 81.58. The handicap was won by H. Giles, with J. Jerome and P. Ashton second and third respectively, and in Section B the placings were as follows: T. ap. Rhys, H. Boorman, A. Craigie, and on handicap F. Rhodes was placed first, T. ap. Rhys second and H. Boorman third.

In the section team race between A and B Sections, A Section team was successful. The fastest losers of each section were A. Brown (A) and A. Craigie (B).

Before presenting the prizes, Miss Hamar Greenwood expressed thanks to the officials, visiting teams, escorts, and all helpers who had contributed to the success of the afternoon's event.

12-Mile Walk

The 12-mile walk will take place on February 26th from Headquarters at 2.30 p.m. sharp on which date it is hoped all walkers will be fit and ready to compete.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be on Wednesday, March 9th, at 5 p.m.

Birmingham

The Birmingham walk will take place on Saturday, April 2nd.

Tickets for Forthcoming Events

Cup Final, April 30th; England v. Scotland, April 9th.

We hope to have a limited number of tickets to sell to St. Dunstaners for both of these matches. Tickets for the Cup Final will be 7s. 6d. each and for the international match, 5s. Applications for tickets for either of these matches should be sent to the Sports Office immediately. Tickets will be allotted by ballot if necessary.

Escorts will be provided but no fares can be paid.

Death of Mr. G. Newsholme

WE have heard with the deepest regret of the death of Mr. G. Newsholme, until 1934 Basket Manager at St. Dunstan's.

Mr. Newsholme, who was 69, came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 where he became one of our first basket instructors, and later manager of the Department. His good humour and practical kindness, his wide knowledge of the craft, were always at the disposal of our basket-makers, who will have the happiest memories of his friendship and help.

Mr. Newsholme retired four years ago and has since been living in Blackpool.

The funeral took place on January 10th, and three St. Dunstaners and their wives were present to represent St. Dunstan's—Mr. and Mrs. Duff, of Blackpool, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, of Blackpool, and Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside, of Lytham. Among the many flowers were wreaths from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his colleagues at St. Dunstan's, and from St. Dunstan's staff.

Personal

Mrs. Muncaster would like to express, through the REVIEW, her appreciation to all friends for their kind messages of sympathy in her recent loss.

E. A. Alexander, of Winton, Bournemouth, thanks all his St. Dunstaner friends for their letters of sympathy in his loss.

Births

BIRLEY.—To the wife of H. Birley, of Salford, on the 17th January, a son.

BUTLER.—To the wife of C. A. Butler, of Long Eaton, on the 22nd January, a son.

WILKIE.—To the wife of J. Wilkie, of Horninglow, on the 28th January, a son (still-born).

<i>Competitor</i>	<i>Scratch Race</i>	<i>Actual Time</i>	<i>Handicap Allowance</i>	<i>Handicap Time</i>	<i>Position handicap</i>	<i>Team</i>		
A. Brown	1	80.58	7.0	73.58	7	1	Fastest Loser	
P. Ashton	2	81.47	13.0	68.47	3	1		
J. Jerome	3	81.58	13.30	68.28	2	2		
H. Gover	4	86.13	16.0	70.13	4	2		
H. Giles	5	89.43	22.30	67.13	1	3		
S. Dyer	6	92.50	20.30	72.20	5	3		
J. Coupland	7	92.55	18.30	74.25	9	3		
W. T. Scott	8	94.45	20.30	74.15	8	2		A
T. Rouse	9	95.19	22.15	73.4	6	3		
G. Jolly	10	109.40	35.0	74.40	10	1		
T. ap Rhys	1	84.3	10.30	73.33	2	1	Fastest Loser	
H. Boorman	3	88.41	15.0	73.41	3	1		
A. Craigie	3	94.16	19.45	74.31	4	2		
H. Kerr	4	95.48	19.45	76.3	7	3		
W. E. Castle	5	95.55	21.15	74.40	5	3		B
A. Lenderyou	6	96.42	22.0	74.42	6	1		
F. Rhodes	7	105.33	34.0	71.33	1	2		

A	<i>Net Time</i>	<i>Aggregate Time</i>	B	<i>Net Time</i>	<i>Aggregate Time</i>
H. Giles	67·13	h.m.s. 7·0·5	F. Rhodes	71·33	h.m.s. 7·22·40
J. Jerome	68·28		T. ap Rhys	73·33	
P. Ashton	68·47		H. Boorman	73·41	
H. Gover	70·13		A. Craigie	74·31	
S. Dyer	72·20		W. E. Castle	74·40	
T. Rouse	73·4		A. Lenderyou	74·42	

<i>Competitor</i>	<i>Actual Time</i>	<i>Handicap Allowance</i>	<i>Handicap Time</i>	<i>Aggregate Time</i>	<i>Team</i>
E. H. Johnson	73·16	5·45	67·31	h.m.s. 4·33·15	Stock Exchange A. C.
W. A. Stanesby	71·46	4·10	67·36		
A. H. Foster	72·29	4·0	68·29		
E. T. Cunningham	79·54	10·15	69·39		
A. D. McSweeney	76·45	10·30	66·15	4·35·31	Highgate H.
C. Megnin	76·45	9·50	66·55		
E. G. Barnes	76·40	6·40	70·0		
E. A. Staker	74·21	2·0	72·21		
J. Jerome	81·58	13·30	68·28	4·44·45	St. Dunstan's No. 2
H. Gover	86·13	16·0	70·13		
F. Rhodes	105·33	34·0	71·33		
A. Craigie	94·16	19·45	74·31		
P. Ashton	81·47	13·0	68·47	4·49·59	St. Dunstan's No. 1
T. ap Rhys.	84·3	10·30	73·33		
H. Boorman	88·41	15·0	73·41		
A. Brown	80·58	7·0	73·58		
H. Giles	89·43	22·30	67·13	4·50·16	St. Dunstan's No. 3
S. Dyer	92·50	20·30	72·20		
W. E. Castle	95·55	21·15	74·40		
H. Kerr	95·48	19·45	76·3		

“In Memory”

Private DAVID BOWLES
(2nd Suffolk Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of D. Bowles, of Hoke, Ipswich, who died on the 3rd January.

Bowles enlisted in July, 1916, and lost his sight as a result of gunshot wounds received at Arras in June, 1917. He did not, however, come to St. Dunstan's after his period in hospital, preferring to return to his home town, as he liked an open air life. For many years he had suffered from very indifferent health. Although he received no training as a blind man, he was most ingenious in building caravans, which were a great credit to him in addition to providing him with a really interesting hobby.

We had heard that Bowles was not so well some weeks before his death, which was nevertheless unexpected.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades from St. Dunstan's.

The funeral was attended by a large number of mourners, including his relatives, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

PRIVATE WILLIAM GEORGE CARRUTHERS
(Australian Imperial Forces)

WE have learned with the deepest regret of the death of one of our overseas men, W. G. Carruthers, of Willoughby, New South Wales, which occurred suddenly on the 3rd October last.

Carruthers did not come to St. Dunstan's for training. He served as a private in the 17th Battalion of the A.I.F., and was wounded in 1917, but he returned direct to Australia.

PRIVATE JAMES COX.
(11th Northumberland Fusiliers)

WE deeply regret to have to record the death of J. Cox, of Felling-on-Tyne, which occurred on the 7th January.

This St. Dunstaner enlisted in the middle of 1916, and was severely wounded at Ypres in September, 1917. After a period in the 2nd London Hospital, he came to St. Dunstan's before the end of that year. Although he was trained as a basket-maker, he was not able to do very much of this type of work, as his health was not very good, and for several years he gave most of his attention to his little business, and later was interested in poultry farming as a hobby.

Although Cox had been in such indifferent health for a number of years, his death was nevertheless very unexpected as he was only in hospital for a few hours.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from St. Dunstan's for the funeral, which took place at Heworth Churchyard. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and the pall bearers were six men from the Northumberland Fusiliers (Territorials).

Cox leaves a widow and six children, some of whom are very young, to whom we extend deepest sympathy.

ORDERLY FREDERICK CHARLES HARRIS
(British Red Cross)

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of F. C. Harris, of Charlton Kings.

Harris had always been interested in ambulance work, and at the outbreak of the War served as a member of the British Red Cross Society, attached to the R.A.M.C. While doing so he met with an injury which resulted in his loss of sight, and he then came to St. Dunstan's where he was trained in basket making.

Some years later he started a confectionery and tobacconist business, which proved most successful, and kept him extremely busy. Harris had many outside interests, one of which was a dance band. This band, which he formed about twelve years ago, was in great demand in his own neighbourhood and surrounding counties. He was also a very enthusiastic member of the British Legion, and of the Charlton Kings Old Boys' Association.

In the midst of this busy life he was suddenly taken ill, and two days later had to be admitted to Charlton General Hospital where an operation was immediately performed, and where in spite of every possible care and attention he died on the 21st January.

The funeral was attended by relatives and friends from all over the country including several St. Dunstan's comrades. There were a large number of wreaths, including one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Harris, and her son Ian, in the very great loss they have sustained.

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

ALEXANDER.—To E. A. Alexander, of Bourne-mouth, whose wife passed away on 11th January.

WILLIAMS.—To Mr. and Mrs. L. Williams, of

Billesley, Birmingham, in the loss of their daughter, Gwendoline Margaret, on the 24th January, after a long illness.

Apartments

Brighton.—Full board-residence, 30s. per week. Children half price.—Mrs. Stracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Brighton.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Join the Legion

THE other day I had the honour to be Guest Speaker at the Midland Conference of the British Legion. Sir Francis Fetherston-Godley, National Chairman of the British Legion, presided. How fortunate the Legion is in its local and national leadership! Good old soldiers, with the spirit of the Legion at heart and an abundance of energy and devotion, take their places as chairmen, honorary secretaries, honorary treasurers, at the centre, in the regions and in the branches. Sir Francis is a notable example; the Legion and the country owe him much for his devoted and able work for ex-service men. Many St. Dunstaners are members of the Legion and enjoy the comradeship and friendliness of its ranks. Some take an active part in its Councils, national and local. I have often mentioned it before, but it is worth repeating, that the ordinary St. Dunstaner will gain much by joining the Legion and mixing again with our old soldier friends. He may also contribute much by taking an interest and helping those who are less fortunate than himself.

The Legion is a general organisation. St. Dunstan's is the largest of the specialist organisations caring for a particular group of severely disabled men. The Legion has two specialist organisations within itself, namely, the Poppy Factory where disabled men work making the Haig emblems, and Preston Hall where tuberculous men are cared for. Thus our two organisations have much in common. In addition we have a collecting agreement. This sometimes leads to misunderstandings and it may be well that I should remind St. Dunstaners of its basis, so that they in turn can correct any wrong impression they may hear amongst the public or in Legion Branches.

The Agreement

St. Dunstan's used to have its own Flag Days, but the time came when there were too many street collections. Being an ex-service organisation we became a partner in Poppy Day. We are a small partner receiving 4 per cent. with a maximum of £15,000 in any one year. This sum was calculated to compensate us for what we received from our own Flag Days. Neither the Legion nor St. Dunstan's thought that this contribution would satisfy our needs. On the contrary, we both realised that it represents only a small fraction of our necessary expenditure. Therefore the Agreement allows both the Legion and St. Dunstan's to collect funds in any other way and pledges each organisation to extend its goodwill and help to the other. The only provision which qualifies this freedom is that St. Dunstan's undertook not to organise collections which would divert helpers or attention from Poppy Day for three weeks before November 11th. In fact we are not only very careful to maintain this close period of three weeks, but we have voluntarily abstained from collecting for a longer period before Poppy Day. Many members of the Legion and some branches of both the Legion itself and the Women's Organisation, help us to make collections in different parts of the country at other times during the year.

Now it sometimes happens that a member of the Legion asks the question "Why does St. Dunstan's need to collect in view of what they get out of Poppy Day?" If there is no one present who can explain the position as I have done in these Notes, misunderstanding sometimes arises. On the one hand there have only been a handful of occasions when this has happened. On the other hand there have been hundreds of occasions when our two organisations have worked in the fullest possible co-operation with the utmost of goodwill. But there ought never to be any misunderstanding between St. Dunstan's and the Legion, and we can each of us contribute towards avoiding this by explaining the facts when we get the opportunity.

I explained this matter at the Midland Conference to which I have referred and I am happy to say that by an overwhelming vote the delegates showed their appreciation of St. Dunstan's, and their desire to help us, and support us, in our work.

I am sure all St. Dunstaners join with me in expressing our admiration of the Legion's work, and our thanks for the abundant measure of co-operation which we enjoy from Branches, Women's Branches and Members throughout the country.

IAN FRASER

Reunion Meetings

THE following Reunions have been arranged to take place during 1938:

Southern Area		
Reunion.	Date.	Place.
Bristol	Wed., May 4	The Berkeley, Queen's Road, Bristol.
Newbury	Thur., May 5	Chequers Hotel, Newbury.
Plymouth	Tue., May 17	Continental Hotel, Plymouth.
Maidstone	Mon., May 23	Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone.
Bedford	Thur., May 26	Dujon Rooms, 34-36 High Street, Bedford.
Southsea	Tue., June 14	Assembly Rooms, Esplanade, Southsea.
Colchester	Fri., June 17	The Cups Hotel, High Street, Colchester.

Northern Area		
Reunion.	Date.	Place.
Cork	Tue., April 26	Metropole Hotel, Cork.
Dublin	Thur., April 28	Jury's Hotel, Dublin.
Belfast	Fri., April 29	Carlton Restaurant, Belfast.
Birmingham	Tue., May 10	The White Horse Hotel, Congreve Street, Birmingham.
Manchester	Thur., May 12 and Fri., May 13	The Grand Hotel, Manchester.
Norwich	Fri., May 20	Bond's Thatch, All Saints Green, Norwich.
Glasgow	Wed., June 1	The Gordon, 19 Gordon Road, Glasgow.
Newcastle-on-Tyne	Fri., June 3	The Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Derby	Wed., June 8	Assembly Rooms, 26 Market Place, Derby.
Leeds	Thur., June 9	Powolny's Restaurant, 4-5 Bond Street, Leeds.

Young St. Dunstaners

Edward, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Brockie, of Torphins, Aberdeenshire, has won a three years' bursary for the Higher Grade School.

☆ ☆ ☆

George Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, of Sprotborough, is now on the training ship, H.M.S. Caledonia, at Rosyth. He is just sixteen.

Another young St. Dunstaner is on the "Caledonia"—Jackie Sim, son of the late W. J. Sim and Mrs. Sim. Jackie arrived home proudly at Christmas with his silver chain and the gold star for his arm.

☆ ☆ ☆

John Michael Law, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Law, of Gotherington, who is at Bristol University, has passed his Intermediate Examination. He is very keen on rowing, and is cox of the second Eight. Soon he will cox the first Eight.

Garden Topics

PREPARING the ground for sweet peas: First break the top soil down with a fork. Take a little soil off to the depth of 2 inches, put half the soil each side and keep the trench 2 ft. wide.

Put 2 ozs. of good bone meal to every 3 ft. run of the trench and mix well with the top soil, about a week before planting. If you want to grow large spikes the plants must be 1 ft. apart and it will take two rows planted triangularly. This will leave 6 inches space on each side of your trench. The plants will have to be grown up 8 or 10 ft. canes. Push the canes quite 1 ft. in the ground.

These plants will only have one stem, and when you plant them you must take care to put the long roots straight down in the soil. I should do it with a trowel, so that you can shake the fine soil amongst the roots. Take care to plant them the same depth that they have been planted previously. This can be seen by the colour of the stem. Make the plants nice and firm with the fingers, and should there be any shoots at the base take care not to break them, as when they have been planted about ten days you must pinch just the top of the plant clean out. You must then take care of the strongest shoot that comes from the base. Use 2 ft. sticks to start them up, and do not tie the shoot too tight. It will want nearly 1 inch of space.

When you see it is growing all right, cut the other shoots off to the first leaf from the stem.

If you want a lot of flowers plant them 6 inches apart and take out the top of the plant in the same way. Let all the shoots grow and then run up ordinary peasticks which will have to be 5 to 6 ft. in height. These can be planted the first week in April: if the ground is moist they will want very little water—just enough to settle them.

Plant your antirrhinums at the same time. The sort that grow to 18 inches are best.

Other plants next month.

A. J. HOLLAND

Holiday Camp

I am arranging for a Camp at Stratford-on-Avon, Friday, June 24th, to Saturday, July 2nd.

A. O. SPURWAY

Talking Book Review

"I Was A Spy"

IN the early days of October, 1914, German troops had advanced as far as Westroosebeke, a small village some 19 kilometres north of Ypres, where the story of Marthe Mackenna opens. These inhabitants were transferred to Roulers, a town of about 27,000 people about 6 kilometres south-east of Westroosebeke.

It was here mainly, in a German Military Hospital that Marthe Mackenna carried on her work of nursing wounded German troops, British prisoners of war, and her spying activities on behalf of the British Intelligence Service.

Roulers being a railhead for the German troops on the Ypres sector, gave our heroine more than enough material for the work she was engaged upon. With the information at her disposal, she was able to get into communication with the British, and by so doing was able to bring about the destruction of an ammunition train, the partial annihilation of a German Division and many other feats for the cause of the Allies.

Her culminating triumph was the blowing up of a large dump of stores and ammunition which ultimately was the cause of her undoing. Her arrest and trial in a German Military Court with the pronouncement of "Death as a Spy" make this an outstanding book of courage and daring.

There appears to be in the minds of a great number of ex-service men who served on the Western Front, that both Belgian and French were responsible for a great deal of "spying." There was, however, very little that the Intelligence Service were not aware of, and Marthe Mackenna, although in enemy occupied territory, was definitely under British military instructions.

To those who know Flanders, this book will enthrall them in again tracing in imagination the clandestine journeys of Marthe Mackenna from Westroosebeke—Roulers—Pilchem—Brussels—Bruges and finally to Ghent. "BOOKWORM"

German ranks mentioned in *I was a Spy*: *Oberarzt*—lieutenant (medical). *Oberst*—colonel. *Gefrieter*—lance-corporal. *Feldwebel*—sergeant-major. *Kriegsgefangenschaft*—prisoner of war.

"My Most Amusing Experience"

Ten shillings goes to J. McAndrew for his entry in this competition, with a consolation prize of five shillings to B. Hamilton, of Brookville.

Here is a selection from some of the many entries:—

Some little while ago, by a small miracle, never achieved before or since, except in the week before Christmas, I found myself the proud possessor of two weeks' pension at the Post Office. Deciding such an achievement must be tangibly recorded, I bought a table gramophone. We were carrying our purchase when I discovered I had no cigarettes. The wife left me outside the shop while she went in to get them. I held the gramophone in my arms, and was, to my idea, quite fondly caressing it, when a gentleman passing, patted my shoulder, put twopence on the turntable, and walked away. I felt pride comes before a fall, and at least it did in the case of

J. McANDREW,
Bournemouth.

In 1919 I was living close to another St. Dunstan's man, who, by the way, has no sense of smell. I kept goats; he decided to keep one too, but had no idea of milking it. Anyway he bought one, just kidded, and giving plenty of milk. One morning he came to me and said, "Tom, I can't get a drop of milk from that old blighter." I said, "Try a little grease; perhaps then she will let it come."

He proceeded to the house to get some. His wife not being in, he went into the larder, and brought out a jar, which he thought contained dripping, and smeared the goat's udder and teats with the substance. After a while he called out, "No good, Tom, she is just as obstinate. Come and see what you can do."

After feeling the goat all round I said, "She's in a sticky mess. What have you put on her?" "Dripping," said he. I put my fingers in the pot and tasted it.

"Dripping?" said I. "Why, its *jam*."

C. T. CONDON,
Worting, near Basingstoke.

About nine years ago, and the first time I was at Brighton, I met one of my old friends: Tom ap Rhys, of Bangor. We had not been there many hours, when Tom said: "Going for a stroll, Hammie?" I remarked that I did not know much about Brighton, so who was going to take us. Rhys replied: "I will take you; yoke on." I yoked on, and away we went.

After a few minutes we found ourselves on a broad pavement, bordered by a privet hedge about 18 inches high. Many of my readers will know of the existence of this hedge. Rhys is a tall fellow, with legs like a lark, and which reach up to his neck, so he strikes out with a long, raking stride. We were going along merrily when I felt a jolt, and I pulled up sharp, although I had hit nothing, but I knew that Rhys had. I waited for Rhys to speak, but instead of hearing the voice of Rhys, I heard a voice coming from near the ground, on the other side of the hedge, and it

said, "What the —. Who the —. Why the —?" and I remained dumb.

Rhys, who is the model of politeness, apologized, and the man walked away. Then I asked Rhys what had happened, and he replied, "That man was tying his shoe lace, with his head well down, and his tail well up; when I brought up my knee, caught him right under where his tail ought to be, and landed him right over the hedge. He somersaulted over the hedge, and when he eventually came to rest he was on his back, so he had to turn right over before he could get up."

In the space of about two seconds I reconstructed the whole affair in my mind's eye, and, like little Audrey, I laughed, and laughed, and laughed.

B. HAMILTON,
Brookville, near Thetford.

I wanted to move a 6 ft. by 4 ft. poultry house from one end of the garden to the other. En route it had to pass a large apple tree and three cherry trees. A neighbour volunteered to help me. After a discussion it was agreed that as he could see, he would take the leading end. As I am deaf, however, I was to give all warnings, "Lift," and "Drop," for the house was just about as much as we could carry.

"OK there?" I called. "Lift," and for a few yards we went, then "Now drop 'un," and little by little we progressed and were near the cherry trees when my neighbour's end went down without any warning with something of a crash. I thought he'd hit one of the trees. I went round to investigate and for a moment could not find him. Then I found him sitting in a large bungalow bath I had sunk for the ducks to swim in, his legs hidden under the house and he lying down in the water rather than sitting.

We had measured and planned everything, but overlooked the bath. Of course, he had been unable to give me any sort of warning, and I'd just staggered on until the crash.

GEO. FALLOWFIELD,
Worthing.

St. Dunstaners in the News

Two of our telephonists were "featured" in the *Daily Express* a fortnight ago. On March 5th a long article, with a photograph, described H. Gover's work with the Government Exchequer and Audit Department and a few days later a similar article appeared about W. H. Harding, whose employer had seen the first story and had told the *Daily Express* of the good work Harding was doing for him.

☆ ☆ ☆

"I had the pleasure this week of meeting one of the most striking examples of cheery forbearance it has ever been my lot to encounter," wrote Captain Ruckholt in the *Leytonstone Express* and *Independent* on February 19th. He was speaking of our masseur, S. Kelly, of Leytonstone. A most appreciative article on Kelly's war record and his present success as a masseur followed.

First Grandchild

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Hornsby, of Pitsmoor, Sheffield, on the birth of their first grandchild—a girl, born on January 25th.

Memories of the Past

W. T. SCOTT, of Streatham, suggests that St. Dunstaners should send in their memories of past days at St. Dunstan's.

"Perhaps I can set the ball rolling," he writes. "There were many before me who might roll it backwards first and then others could take up the good work later so that we could have a chapter each issue. From a little beginning, we might be able to get a volume which would become a classic in the days when war shall be no more and everyone is in a house fit for a hero to live in."

This is an excellent idea and we shall be very glad to hear from others who would like to keep the ball rolling.

Here is Scott's contribution:—

I was bumped in an ambulance down the King's Road, Chelsea, to Ward 2 at the 2nd London Hospital, St. Mark's School, converted for the purpose. My regeneration came when I learned that there were thirty-six special eye cases in the same ward, and many others worse in wards near by.

We could not have got on without Ma Lydia, who arrived at 8 a.m. to get those kippers ready for breakfast. We were given spoons. By the time the nurse had started helping with the bones at one end of the ward, the chaps at the other end had found fingers very effective. Washings and dressings took a long time, but with the aid of blokes who could see from Ward 6, we were made tidy ready for Sister Padbury to come round. My word, how the staff worked! No wonder the nurses get a cheer at the Albert Hall on Armistice Night.

How many of our chaps remember Betts and Ross, those two R.A.M.C. orderlies with hearts of gold? There was Taffy Isaacs, from Ward 6 who used to play the piano to us most beautifully, and how anxiously we used to wait for Miss Preston to arrive to read the paper to us. The door by the stairs would be opened and a voice would say "Hello!" The owner of that voice would dance down the stairs and commence to embrace us one by one, leaving out only those who were too ill for a joke. There would be sharp banter and sharper repartee. Then to work and the owner of the voice would make herself useful by writing cards and letters for us. Who was this man? Over the years which have followed, how staunch he has been to us and how much better are we for having met him. Then there was a member of our Council who came with Miss Scoles in attendance. There was the tentative enquiry about how much could this man see and whether he might like to be introduced to Braille. How we were bribed to read with our fingers for a ten bob note and to write for a little chain! Oh, the patience of it all! Then we had frames with strings of elastic on so that we could write with a pencil.

Fellows who had matriculated and gone to Regent's Park used to come down to tell us what

was in store. We looked to the future, and a gleam of hope was kindled. Sir Arthur came to talk to us: more chats and a little more hope.

Then came the host of visitors with their various forms of entertainment. Parties arranged for tea in Kensington, Mayfair and Chiswick. One of our number recited "Gungadin" after a tea given by butcher friends. Who remembers the volume of sound which floated to us through the trees at Ascot as a baritone sang "The Windmill Song" to us after a perfect afternoon?

Shaving was a problem in those days. As we began to improve in health and find our legs, the bed-rails soon became signposts. We were able to collect together, ten or a dozen of us, and on the spirit of adventure find our way out through the long corridor away to Fulham Road to the barbers. This freedom and a clean shave—and what remarks we used to hear from passers-by as we somehow found our way back in time for dinner. What a job it was to dress ourselves in those days, the visits to the linen cupboard at the top of the stairs for the tailor-made ultra-modern blue suits with plenty of room in them.

But I think I have rambled on long enough. Perhaps we could turn to later days at the College, after a "regretter" when one of our chaps presented an ice cup from Maison L—— to Fred Ashworth after he had given us a demonstration of how he won the Singles. The gallery was the beds in one of the huts behind the College. But that is another story.

Believe It or Not—

The week after our Derby Sweepstake was announced last month, the first three applications for tickets were received. They came within two posts of one another. *Every one was from a St. Dunstaner named Thompson.*

☆ ☆ ☆

AN old friend of mine, picking up his walking stick one night, preparing to go home the same two miles he had walked about an hour previously, discovered the ferrule was missing from the bottom of his stick. It could not be found, so he departed. On reaching home he found to his amazement his ferrule was there in its place, on the stick. The ferrule was of iron, unfastened to the stick, and the explanation, he genuinely believes, is that by a chance in millions, his stick had, on his way back, picked up the lost ferrule from the soft soil where it had become embedded and left on his way out.

R. Z. H.

Competition

Send us *your* "Believe it or not" story. It must, however, be true and vouched for by the writer. A prize of ten shillings will be sent to the best effort. Closing date: April 4th.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the Fourth Period of four weeks, December 27th, 1937, to January 23rd, 1938:—

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Campbell, J.	414
2	Holmes, Percy	341
3	Knopp, H. A.	329
4	Carpenter, E. J.	317
5	Jarvis, Albert	314
6	Brown, M. Watson	309
7	Fisher, T. M.	288
8	Jackson, G. C.	286
9	Gwyn, A. Ivor	276
9	Powell, G.	276
11	Fisher, T. M.	272
12	Holmes, Percy	247
13	Hill, R. E.	243
14	McLaren, David	240
15	Roberts, Harry	234
16	Hammett, H. A.	223
17	Hamilton, B.	222
18	Smith, W. Alan	215
19	Smith, W. Alan	203
20	Hamilton, B.	200
21	Brown, C. H.	193
22	Chaffin, Albert	167
23	McIntosh, Charles	161
24	McLaren, David	155
25	Stock, C. H.	154
26	Capper, A. H.	147
27	Capper, A. H.	106
28	Woodcock, W. J.	102
29	Webb, W.	68

Temporary position of No. 1 birds to the end of the fourth month:—

Hill, R. E.	3433	W.W.	88
Holmes, P.	3355	R.I.R.	81
Jackson, G. C.	3361	R.I.R.	81

Winner of the Winter Medal

J. Campbell, with his pen of Rhode Island Reds, is the winner of the Winter Medal in the National Laying Trials.

Derby Sweepstake

OUR eighth Derby Sweepstake, open to all St. Dunstaners, has now begun and full particulars were given in last month's REVIEW.

Tickets are 2s. 6d. each, and a remittance to cover the number of tickets required must be enclosed, together with the sender's name and address, with each application.

The closing date is May 23rd.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

12-MILE WALK

IN perfect weather conditions the 12 Mile Inter-Club Handicap Walk was held on February 26th over the usual ground of the Outer Circle.

Col. R. E. Bickerton, M.B., D.S.O., very kindly acted as starter to a strong field. The Metropolitan Police were good enough to turn out two teams, one to replace the P.L.A. team who were unable to compete.

Everyone was walking at the top of his form. T. ap Rhys, finishing with a great burst of speed, lowered the record for Section B competitors over the distance to the splendid time of 110 mins. 30 secs. The previous best time, also set up by T. ap Rhys, was 114 mins. 27 secs. in 1936.

The result of race and times were:— 1st, A. Brown, 106 mins. 15 secs.; 2nd, T. ap Rhys, 110 mins. 30 secs.; 3rd, J. Jerome, 111 mins. 5 secs. The handicap placings were in Section A: 1st, W. Trott; 2nd, G. Jolly, and 3rd, A. Brown; and in Section B: 1st, T. ap Rhys; 2nd, W. E. Castle, and H. Kerr and A. Lenderyou tied for 3rd place. The fastest losers were J. Jerome and H. Boorman in Sections A and B respectively. Special mention must be made of T. ap Rhys's very sporting action in giving up his first prize to the second man, which enabled H. Kerr and A. Lenderyou to divide between them the remaining two prizes.

Dr. C. Chittenden Bridges, M.D., before presenting the prizes, thanked all who had come along to make the afternoon a success, especially the members of the Metropolitan Police, who, in addition to finding two teams, had through Inspector Bidgood also supplied as many as 20 escorts.

In a few well-chosen words, T. ap Rhys thanked Dr. Bridges for kindly presenting the prizes.

Sports Meeting

The Meeting to discuss the summer sports will be held on Tuesday, April 26th, at 7.30.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Club will be on Wednesday, April 13th, at 5 p.m.

Birmingham and Wembley Walks

Birmingham	Saturday, April 2nd
Wembley	Saturday, April 23rd

12 Mile Walking Handicap

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Position in Handicap	Team	Scratch Race
A. Brown ...	106.15	12	94.15	3	1	1
J. Jerome ...	111.5	13.30	97.35	11	1	2 (Fastest loser)
P. Ashton ...	114.13	13	101.13	8	1	3
W. Trott ...	115.20	25	90.20	1	3	4
H. Gover ...	117.44	19.30	98.14	10	2	5
A. Giles ...	121.21	23.30	97.51	9	2	6
J. Coupland ...	122.58	28.30	94.28	4	3	7
S. Dyer ...	123.42	28	95.42	6	2	8
W. T. Scott ...	126.9	30	96.9	7	3	9
T. Rouse ...	126.9	30.30	95.39	5	Res.	10 A.
P. Cashmore...	139.10	35	104.10	12	Res.	11
G. Jolly ...	144.45	50.45	94	2	Res.	12
T. ap Rhys ...	110.30	15	95.30	1	3	1
H. Boorman...	119.16	21.45	97.31	4	3	2 (Fastest loser)
W. E. Castle...	127.48	32	95.48	2	2	3
A. Craigie ...	128.1	29.45	98.16	5	2	4
H. Kerr ...	129.11	32	97.11	3	2	5
A. Lenderyou	130.11	33	97.11	3	1	6 B.
W. C. Scott ...	135.35	34	101.35	7	1	7
F. Rhodes ...	142.33	42.30	100.3	6	1	8

Match A v. B Section

A.	Nett Time	Aggregate Time	B.	Nett Time	Aggregate Time
W. Trott ...	90.20		T. ap Rhys ...	95.30	
G. Jolly ...	94		W. E. Castle ...	95.48	
A. Brown ...	94.15		H. Kerr ...	97.11	
J. Coupland ...	94.28		H. Boorman ...	97.31	
T. Rouse ...	95.39		A. Craigie ...	98.16	
S. Dyer ...	95.42		F. Rhodes ...	100.3	
		hr. mn. sec.			hr. mn. sec.
		9 24 24			9 44 19

Inter-Club Team Race

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Aggregate Time	Team
				hr. mn. sec.	
S. Roberts ...	97.39	9.35	88.4		
B. Hamilton ...	99.18	10.15	89.3	5 57 41	Metropolitan Police Team "A"
A. Readman ...	96.44	7.25	89.19		
F. Wood ...	102.30	11.15	91.15		
R. Harris ...	96.43	7.50	88.53		
H. Thaxter ...	101.12	11.25	89.47	6 9 22	Metropolitan Police Team "B"
B. Mann ...	106.29	12	94.29		
R. Martin ...	104.38	8.25	96.13		
W. Trott ...	115.20	25	90.20		
J. Coupland ...	122.58	28.30	94.28	6 17 49	St. Dunstan's No. 3 Team
T. ap Rhys ...	110.30	15	95.30		
H. Boorman ...	119.16	21.45	97.31		
S. Dyer ...	123.42	28	95.42		
A. Giles ...	121.21	23.30	97.51	6 26 32	St. Dunstan's No. 2 Team
W. E. Castle ...	127.48	32	95.48		
H. Kerr ...	129.11	32	97.11		
A. Brown ...	106.15	12	94.15		
J. Jerome ...	111.5	13.30	97.35	6 29 4	St. Dunstan's No. 1 Team
A. Lenderyou ...	130.11	33	97.11		
F. Rhodes ...	142.33	42.30	100.3		

"In Memory"

Chief Petty Officer RICHARD EGGLETON

(*Royal Navy*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of R. Eggleton, of Bridgend. Eggleton went through the early years of the war in the Navy, and at one period served in France with the Heavy Naval Guns. As a result of his war service he completely lost his sight, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's, where he was trained in boot-repairing and mat-making. He first went to live in the village of Llanybyther in Carmarthenshire, where he will be well remembered, but some time afterwards moved to Bridgend where he remained for the rest of his life. His health, however, was not good, and gradually he found himself compelled to give up work, and since then had lived quietly with his wife and son. During the past few years he gradually grew worse and died on January 25th. The funeral took place a few days later, and was attended by many friends and relatives. There were a great many beautiful wreaths, including one from Sir Ian Fraser and his fellow St. Dunstaners. Eggleton leaves a widow and one son, to whom we send our very sincere sympathy.

Private REGINALD JOHN THOMAS

(*16th Battalion Gloucester Regiment*)

We deeply regret to announce the death of R. J. Thomas, of Worcester. Thomas enlisted in 1915, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's as early as 1916, having lost his sight as a result of his service. He was never able to take up any strenuous training on account of his health, and although he had a certain knowledge of poultry farming and mat-making he was able to do very little at either of these occupations. He had been very ill for a considerable period, and his condition gave cause for anxiety several weeks before his death, which occurred on January 26th, 1938.

At his express wish he was buried at Bridgnorth, where he was born and where he still had many relatives. A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Thomas leaves a widow and seven children, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Corporal JOSEPH WILLIAM BELLIS

(*Royal Welch Fusiliers*)

It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of J. W. Bellis, of Flint. Bellis, who was in his 73rd year, was blinded as the result of an explosion of a drum of sulphuric acid in 1916, while he was on Government work. It was not, however, until December, 1930, that he came under the care of St. Dunstan's. His age and the condition of his health made it impossible for him to take any training, but in spite of this he lived a quiet and happy life in his home town.

Bellis, who also saw active service in the South African War, was a well-known breeder of racing pigeons, and during the Great War he reared several birds which he sent to the Government for carrier work. Two of his pigeons rendered meritorious war service, and Bellis was officially thanked by the War Departments concerned, for the services rendered by these birds.

Although he had not been fit for several months, his death on February 11th was unexpected.

The funeral took place on Monday, February 14th. Bellis was well-known and esteemed throughout the borough and many officials of local organizations were present, including members of the British Legion. A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the many flowers.

Bellis leaves a widow, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy. They had been married forty-six years.

Birth

CAPLE.—To the wife of A. J. Caple, of Cardiff, on February 14th, a daughter—Carol Valentine.

Death

SPENCER.—We offer our very sincere sympathy to J. Spencer, of Leicester, whose wife died suddenly on February 15th.

Marriage

FITZPATRICK — BIDDULPH.—On Wednesday, March 9th, at Barrow-in-Furness, Bernard Fitzpatrick to Miss Lavinia Biddulph.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson, of Alderholt, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on February 26th.

Holiday Apartments

Brighton.—Full board-residence, 30s. per week. Children half price.—Mrs. Stracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Brighton.

Sandown.—A. Vernon caters for bed and breakfast, or full board.—15 Louis Road, Lake, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 240.—VOLUME XXII. [NEW SERIES]

APRIL, 1938

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

NATIONAL SERVICE

A St. Dunstaner's Suggestion

OUR Chairman has asked us to publish the two letters that follow, as he thinks they will be of interest to many readers.

PURLEY OAKS,
SOUTH CROYDON,
23rd March, 1938.

DEAR SIR IAN,

No doubt you will remember the speech given by Sir Samuel Hoare a few days ago on "Air Raid Precautions" and the help required. He was asking for a million helpers all over the country to be trained in case of emergency.

I have a suggestion to make re St. Dunstan's telephone operators. I think through you or perhaps individually, we St. Dunstan's men may be of some service to the country, as there are probably between one hundred and one hundred and fifty trained operators, and I am sure the majority would only be too glad to do their bit in some small way in hospitals, fire stations, town halls, or local government offices, or even in telephone exchanges.

I myself, will apply locally and offer my services, but I do think if the authorities knew that they could get trained men like us they would jump at the chance.

This is only a suggestion on my part and I should be glad to have your views on the question.

Believe me,
Yours respectfully,
P. GARRITY.

ST. DUNSTAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
1st April, 1938.

DEAR GARRITY,

Thank you for your letter. I think the spirit of your letter is admirable and believe that it will be shared by our comrades generally.

I have carefully thought over your proposal that I should consult our blinded soldier telephone operators and ask them to volunteer for emergency service and send a united offer of help to the Government. This is a very attractive idea, to which I feel certain our men perhaps without an exception would respond, but it presents great practical difficulties. Nor am I convinced that services offered centrally would be the most valuable our men could render.

We have one hundred and six telephone operators, of whom twenty-nine are employed in Government departments or by local authorities, and seventy-seven in businesses large and small, mainly in Greater London.

Comedy

SEVERAL months ago, when everybody was out but myself, I answered a ring at the front door bell. A lady wished me good afternoon and inquired whether she could inspect the workshops. I think I looked very blank as I returned the salute and asked, in mystified tones, what workshops she meant. "I am a factory inspector," she informed me, and though I could not see why she should want to inspect my workshop I obligingly escorted her out into the garden and to the hut.

"This is not the only work-room, is it?" she inquired. "Yes, madam," I replied, smiling to myself. "But I thought those sheds I saw behind were the factory," she exclaimed. "The only sheds I know are the cattle pens in the market," I assured her. "Do you mean that you are the only one working here?" she queried persistently and, I thought, with a touch of suspicion. "Yes, madam," I replied, "and I do not see how you could mistake my hut for a factory." "Oh, it was not the hut, it was the brass plate with your *trade mark* and I'd seen that line of sheds as I came down the hill and thought it was a new factory here." "The trade mark on the brass plate," I replied, "is St. Dunstan's badge." "Well I never," she said. "Do you mean to tell me you are a blind soldier? Well I thought you looked funny when I came to the door and you opened it, but I didn't think you were blind, and I am sorry." "No need to be sorry, madam," I assured her. "The funniest thing is that there is still somebody who does not even recognize St. Dunstan's badge, but I hope the factory met with your approval."

A. RADFORD.

Drama

She laid the still white form where others had laid before. No sob, no sigh forced its way from her heart, throbbing as though it would burst.

Suddenly a cry broke the stillness of the place—a single heart-breaking shriek; then silence; then another cry. Then all was silent but for the murmur which seemed to rise from the core of her being. She left the place without a backward look. She would lay another egg tomorrow.

R.Z.H.

Talking Books

Here are some more talking book titles which are being added to the Library:—

The Proud Servant, by Margaret Irwin.

Read by Faith Loring.

A historical romance of the Scottish wars in the reign of Charles I.

Sorrell and Son, by Warwick Deeping.

Read by F. P. Bayley.

A story of the struggles of an officer in the post-war period to educate his son and give him a chance in life.

Death in the Clouds, by Agatha Christie.

Read by Eric Gillett.

Another Monsieur Poirot detective story. *Old King Cole*, by Edward Shanks.

Read by Alan Howland.

A modern story of black magic in a country village.

The Happy Return, by C. S. Forrester.

Read by A. E. McDonald.

A good sea yarn about the days of sailing ships.

South Riding, by Winifred Holtby.

Read by Ivor Tyler.

A long, modern novel about present-day conditions in Yorkshire, with very interesting character-studies.

The History of Mr. Polly, by H. G. Wells.

Read by Alan Howland.

A romantic comedy of middle class life in the Edwardian days.

The Spotted Lion, by Kenneth Gandar Dower.

Read by Lionel Gamlin.

Hunting for spotted lions in the Kenya Colony.

Lord Jim, by Joseph Conrad.

Read by E. le Breton Martin.

One of this popular author's most famous stories.

The Autobiography of G. K. Chesterton.

Read by Lionel Gamlin.

The Life and Times of King Edward VII by Andre Maurois.

Read by Robert Speaight.

H.V.K.

Review

"In the Steps of the Master"

SO much has been written concerning Palestine that some justification seems necessary to indicate to St. Dunstaners, particularly those modern Crusaders who served in the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. In the first place, this talking book does not deal with the Great War, but as

its title implies, that of the travels of the author, Mr. H. V. Morton, during his journeys in the Holy Land.

In reviewing *In the Steps of the Master*, my excuse must lie in the hope that the records will mirror a little of the lives of a people who not only lived in the time of Jesus, but after two thousand years continue to observe the same way of living.

Mr. Morton takes us into the narrow winding streets of Jerusalem, David's Street, the Via Dolorosa, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; even into the narrow confines of the Tomb of Christ, upon the site of the Temple of Herod where now the Mosque of El Aksa stands out in simple and dignified architecture.

The heterogeneous mass of the population during Passover week with its varied religious rites as of the Latins, Jews, Moslems, Greeks and the peculiar ceremonies of the Abyssinian Church on the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, give a very intimate idea of the past glories of Judea in a modern Palestine with its secular differences between Arab and Jew.

From Jerusalem to Bethlehem for a glimpse of the Manger in the Church of the Nativity. On to Hebron, possibly the oldest town in the world, to Beersheba where in the dim ages of the past, Abraham watered his flocks at the wells.

Northwards to Galilee, eastwards to Amman, across the Jordan and southwards to the dead city of Petra, are a few of the many places in which there is such a very close association where the Master taught and travelled.

An immense amount of historical fact from Vespasian, Titus, Josephus, and in more recent times Lawrence and Peak, makes this book one of the most interesting that the writer has yet heard, and if my recommendation can be taken for anything, it is well worth while getting it from the Talking Book Library.

"BOOKWORM."

A Digging Hint

A. Allen, of Alton, Stoke-on-Trent, has been doing a good deal of digging with the aid of a long board. To keep this in position, he has had holes bored at each end, through which he puts a long metal skewer. This goes deep enough into the ground to hold the board steady.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

The "Coincidences" competition in the REVIEW produced some world-beaters, but there is the boot on the other foot, too.

When I was in Moorfields' Hospital, City Road, E.C.1, I met a totally blind man who had also lost some fingers. I knew this as he was unable to learn to talk properly to me, but like most of the wounded, found a way out. He told me of the Braille watch, that he lived at Barking, was in the East Essex, wounded at a listening post, was a dispenser before the war, told me heaps but never his name and for fifteen years I've been trying to find him.

There are a good few people I'd like to meet again. For instance, as a mere youth upon the outbreak of the war, I came into contact with a full sergeant of the R.F.A. whose horse was shot from under him at Mons. He sustained a broken leg and laid so long unattended, that his leg set all crooked and much shorter than the other. His name was Skates, or Scates, and his batman was partly blinded too. This old chap went through the Boer War and for a time between the Boer War and Great War worked at Brentford Gas Works. I liked him and was very fascinated by his smartness, his well polished brass and in particular the guns on either arm above his sergeant stripes, and one day he said to me, "I dunno, George, but I think you'll fill out and make a gunner yet". At the age of sixteen in that same year I became a gunner in the R.F.A. I'd love to find that old timer, but he was an old timer then and I guess time has overtaken him. But did his old batman—known as "Jake" ever get to St. Dunstan's?

This old Sergeant Skates, or Scates, and his batman were in the Council and Grammar Schools Hospital, Aylesbury, Bucks, in June, 1916.

GEO. FALLOWFIELD.

DEAR SIR,

I am sure there are many St. Dunstaners, like myself, who eagerly await the arrival of the REVIEW, and also look forward to its reading by our wives or whoever may attend to our wants. Why do we do this? Simply because we feel that it is a part of St. Dunstan's; in fact a family letter so to speak. Yet many of us are content to sit back and await each month for something worth while, not troubling to contribute ourselves to its pages. I am one of those slackers, and yet I always look forward to its arrival more than anything else. To my mind it is like a letter arriving from distant friends; it makes you feel that St. Dunstan's is very much alive, and that you are part of it, so why not try and make the REVIEW the medium of conversation between us all. I do not see why we should not form a debating society through its pages. Those who would wish to partake in these matters could send along their names to the Editor; a small Committee could then be arranged to select the subject each month and in turn the members be asked to contribute. Perhaps some of my fellow St. Dunstaners will state their views on this suggestion.

A. R. CLOVER, Long Melford.

National Laying Test

Report for the fifth period of four weeks, January 24th to February 20th, 1938.

Position	Name	Test Score	Value
1	Campbell J. ...	532	
2	Holmes, Percy ...	423	
3	Knopp, H. A. ...	418	
4	Carpenter, E. H.	416	
5	Brown, M. Watson	408	
6	Jarvis, Albert ...	394	
7	Fisher, T. M. ...	383	
8	Gwyn, A. Ivor ...	376	
9	Jackson, G. C. ...	367	
10	Powell, G. ...	356	
11	Fisher, T. M. ...	349	
12	Hill, R. E. ...	343	
13	McLaren, D. ...	308	
14	Roberts, Harry ...	306	
15	Holmes, Percy ...	304	
16	Smith, W. Alan ...	289	
16	Hammett, H. A.	289	
18	Hamilton, B. ...	281	
19	Smith, W. Alan ...	276	
20	Brown, C. H. ...	259	
21	Hamilton, B. ...	243	
22	Chaffin, Albert ...	232	
23	Capper, A. H. ...	214	
24	McIntosh, C. ...	211	
25	McLaren, David ...	203	
26	Stock, C. H. ...	197	
27	Woodcock, W. J.	184	
28	Capper, A. H. ...	175	
29	Webb, W....	140	

Making a Spirit Level

S. F. PRIDEAUX, of Brighton, has been interested in making a spirit level.

A holiday visitor to Brighton suggested one way to him and although this method was certainly most ingenious—it involved the use of a marble in a bottle, the level to be judged by the movement of the rolling marble—it did need a great amount of concentration and patience.

Prideaux suggests another method, which, he says, "will not deter the most feeble-hearted of us." Here it is:—

Imagine an inverted "T" square, the horizontal piece as the straight edge, the perpendicular as the plumb bob. Most of you have seen the builder using one.

METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION

The straight edge of the horizontal piece is approximately 3 ft long. by $\frac{7}{8}$ inch thick

and 6 inches deep. Ordinary floor boarding is ideal. The piece for the plumb bob is of the same boarding, and 2 ft. 6 in. long. Take your marking gauge and place the pin at the 3-inch mark, and mark in the usual way. Find the centre of the straight edge, *i.e.*, 18 inches, then mark 3 inches on either side of this centre mark. This leaves 15 inches on each side of the half joint that must be cut. Now measure on the perpendicular piece which is the plumb bob, 6 inches up from one end; this is the other half joint. Now get that handy man you have as a friend to mark and cut out a pear-shaped hole. The base of the pear rests on the 6 inch line of the half joint. One inch from the top, which is the other end to the half joint, put in a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch nail and tie the string of the plumb bob, allowing enough just to clear the wood. Glue the half joints and when set, screw with five screws, one at each corner and one central.

Now for the pin that controls the alignment. This is put at the base of the pear-shaped hole: this is so adjusted that the plumb bob pin just touches when dead level is found.

S. F. PRIDEAUX.

Young St. Dunstaners

Jack Loram, son of Mr. and Mrs. Loram, of Brixham, became a First Class Stoker in eight months after joining the Navy; he went abroad last September to China, and will soon be sitting for the Higher Educational Test. If he passes, his next rating will be that of Leading Stoker. He is on H.M.S. *Dorsetshire*.

☆ ☆ ☆

John D. Floyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd, of Teignmouth, has passed Elementary (Grade I) Examination in Pianoforte Playing with Honours at the Torquay Centre.

☆ ☆ ☆

Sidney Back, son of Mr. and Mrs. Back, of Shaldon, joined the Navy last May, and is now First Class Boy. He joined his ship at Plymouth on April 1st.

☆ ☆ ☆

Stanley Eden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eden, of Sidford, has been over two years in the Navy, and is now Ordinary Signaller on H.M.S. *Revenge*.

Names and Numbers

By A CORRESPONDENT

A LETTER-WRITER to a newspaper has just lashed himself into a frenzy and a couple of split infinitives, in ten lines of deathless (because lifeless) prose, asking the World and his wife why in the Heck (and his wife) otherwise sane citizens insist on having names for their houses instead of numbers. For once, I think, even I must sympathize with that prize Press pest (say that quickly several times), the letter-writer. Especially if he should be a postman!

For, where numbers are names, a postman's lot is definitely not a happy one. Like the soldier, his life's motto must be "No names, No packdrills," for houses that are names must be as bad as packdrills to him, especially if he is new to his beat, so to speak.

After all, numbers are more or less plain sailing. You do know that No. 101 is somewhere past No. 1, and, although it may be discouraging to find a letter addressed to No. 1001, still the postman does know where he is even if he regrets where he has got to get to.

Numbers are at least logical. Not so, names. The super-intelligent postman, given letters for Kosy Kot and Mon Repos in the same road, might legitimately assume that they were neighbours—only to find that Kosy Kot is here (or there) and Mon Repos just past the little shop five turnings down where you furtively decant your betting slips.

Equally, you would look for The Hall and The Grange at the aristocratic end of the road near the Recreation Ground and find them almost on top of the tram-lines, while "Sewerage" might be the palatial residence of the local money-lender and Carey-street sidesman. In fact, the only time I have ever known likes to be neighbours was in the case of a householder, who was so mortified with the presumption of the house next door calling itself a *Pied à Terre* that he came all over scholar himself and called his own semi-detached rabbit-hutch, *Pied Piper*. The same man, I believe, thought that Hamelin was Prince of Denmark.

Anyhow, why should houses alone have this privilege of shedding numbers and

taking names? Supposing the same thing were to happen in the Army? *What* a shock the Sergeant would have if you numbered off from the right, "One, Two, Three, Mon Repos, Five, Six, Seven, Mademoiselle from Armentieres, Nine, and the Same to You." I am sure that it would be very bad for discipline, the French language, and the Entente in general.

Or again, supposing that the telephone became all name-conscious? Fancy, instead of asking for GERard 123456, having to demand Gerrard LOVE in A MIST. The operator *would* be mortified!

Take motor cars again. What fun it would be (for others) if a policemen wanted to take the number of a car and, instead of finding RD Xffff, being confronted with a name like Sans Souci or Avec Knobs Sur, which is its Gallic Equivalent. He would probably go up in flames and write rude inscriptions on the front door of the Police college.

I maintain that there ought to be uniformity throughout all our daily lives and that, if names are allowed for houses, they ought to be allowed for everything else as well.

What fun then we should have in turning all the numbers around us into names! I would back my old typewriter against the world at this job. My present wireless licence is 43,5967, and, when I type it, it always appears on the paper as @/f(-&—, which seems to me to be a very sweet sounding name indeed!

Old Friends

In a recent letter to the Editor, a St. Dunstaner writes:

"Can't we have news of some of our old friends who have retired, both male staff and V.A.D.s? They read news about us. Can't we have news about them?"

"Why not ask them to write to the REVIEW and tell us about themselves, and what they are doing now?"

We need hardly say that we are always glad to hear of our old friends, and if any of them can find time to let us have news of themselves, we shall be very glad indeed to pass it on to St. Dunstaners through the REVIEW.

Believe It or Not

A page of selections from the many entries received for this competition. The prize of ten shillings goes to C. T. Condon, of Basingstoke, with a consolation prize of five shillings for W. Last of Crynant.

Scene: St. Dunstan's Lounge. Time: week before Easter, 1918. The mail has just arrived, and sisters are very busy reading letters for the men. One man sits on a chair with an unopened letter in his hand. He is approached by a sister, who asks, "Shall I read your letter?" The St. Dunstaner smiles, thanks the sister, and proffers the unopened letter. The sister smiles, and takes the letter. The letter is opened, and sister reads at the end, "From your loving sweetheart, Mabel." The man smiles with satisfaction. The sister smiles expectantly. The sister sits down in the adjoining chair, inclines her head towards the St. Dunstaner and commences to read. Before many passages had been read, it was evident that spring was in the air with Mabel, because she informed her lover what plans she had made for a rollicking time for both of them when he came home at Easter. The St. Dunstaner's smile gets broader. The sister smiles more audibly. Then she comes to a passage at which she not only smiles audibly, but laughs aloud. The St. Dunstaner also laughs aloud, but jumps up immediately from his chair, and going to the back of sister's chair, inserts a forefinger in each of her ears. "Now read on," he says.

B. HAMILTON, Brookville, Nr. Thetford.

Several years ago when I was living in a little village in Carmarthenshire, there was a lot of talk going around about a ghost called the "White Lady."

One evening when I was going for my usual walk into the village, a distance of two miles, I heard someone following me and at intervals touch my legs. I at last turned round and said, "Hey, mate, what's the game." This I repeated about three times. In the end, getting no reply, I got thoroughly annoyed, and said, "If you don't answer I am going to hit out with my stick." Still getting no reply, I aimed, and to my amazement the ghost gave a loud "Baa." It was our local shopkeeper's pet lamb.

On arriving at the village I called at his shop. "Well, Griffiths," I said, "I've at last discovered the ghost." He got quite excited and told me to report it to the police, but when I told him who the ghost was, and hoped I had not killed him, he had a good laugh.

W. LAST, Crynant.

I once had an hen which laid seven eggs in one day. She had appeared broody for several days so I decided to let her sit. As is my custom, I felt her all over. On doing so, I discovered she had an unlaid egg near the vent, which undoubtedly was the cause of her uneasiness.

Overnight I gave her a dose of oil, put her into a box by herself and left her till morning. At 7.30 a.m. I handled her and found the egg was still in the same position, but on going back an hour later I found she had laid four eggs,

which I took away, and by the afternoon she laid three more, which made the total of seven eggs in one day.

C. T. CONDON, Basingstoke.

Some years ago my father kept pigeons, and one particular pair were what he called Black Baldheads. They were given this name because with the exception of three white feathers in each wing and a white head, the rest of the bird was all black; they were a pure bred pair. He declared that he would know the hen bird amongst others because it grew one black feather in the centre of its head, and although plucked out it would re-appear. In and around the neighbourhood, five hundred birds were stolen during one Christmas, but the night prowler could not be traced. My father fell a victim to the snatch and grab, losing twenty-one birds, including this particular pair, and at the time the hen bird was branded with the black feather. One evening my father made a tour of the bird shops, and on looking in one of the windows he noticed a pair of black baldheads for sale. On going into the shop he got a close view of them. He noticed the hen bird had a black feather in its head and soon made up his mind they were his birds. My father asked the man if he knew who had sold them to him, and he replied that he did not know his address, but as he had bought a good number of birds from the man he would know him again by sight. After purchasing the birds, and asking the shopman to keep them until they were called for, he made his way to the police station and gave them full particulars. To give further proof, my father got a detective to fetch the birds and arranged to meet him at a chosen spot the next day. When the detective met him with the pigeons he said, "What are you going to do with them now?" My father said, "Let them loose and then go round to where I live." On going into the garden the two birds were in the nest pans cooing away.

During this time they had locked up several suspects, and these were lined up at the station with policemen in private clothes, and the shopman, looking through a window at the men, picked out one who proved to be the thief.

G. S. CHAPPELL, Saltford.

My memory takes me back to a little incident which happened while I was staying at the Brighton Annexe.

I was sitting amongst the "big people" in the quiet lounge listening to the news on the wireless; the room was pretty full. During a lull in the news, a loud voice broke the silence with "He's a poor announcer," or words to that effect. My mind instantly settled on an article of Sir Ian Fraser's published in *The Radio Times* under the heading of "The Companionship of Broadcasting," in which he pointed out that every interested listener had a favourite announcer.

After the news was over, being curious to know the cause of the dislike in this instance, I got hold of the man and asked him the reason. Imagine my surprise when he said to me, in a very indignant tone, "When he reads the news out I never back a winner."

J. WATSON, Manor Park.

The Third Man

MR. MATLOCK looked at the younger man he had summoned to his luxurious office. Anxiety was written all over the great Hatton Garden diamond merchant's face. "I have received a telephone communication from Lord Wingham," he said. "You were aware he intended coming to town to see those specimens?" The younger man nodded. "Well," continued Mr. Matlock, "He has a chill and is unable to come up, but he is anxious to see the diamonds to-day. You are to take them down to his place in Hampshire. You have been there before. Do you think you can manage alone, this time? There are £12,000 worth." The other nodded. He was a man of few words. "Perfectly, sir," and he rose to go.

By bus to Waterloo and in a third-class compartment with what looked like a week-end case, the young man journeyed down through the lovely county of Surrey into Hampshire, and on the road two men in a high-powered car also journeyed to the same village. They were also diamond fanciers. They had received certain information from a lower member of Lord Wingham's household staff.

It was dusk when the two men stopped their car in a narrow lane and waited for their confederate, who now made his way with caution towards them. "He's here," he said, "he's stopping the night with a brother who lives a mile this side of the village, first cottage on the left. It lies back from the road behind a high hedge. The brother is a blind poultry-farmer. His wife has gone to market and won't be back until about eight. Your job is to lure our man out and nip into the cottage and get his case. Tell him he's wanted on the phone at the post office. Before he's back you ought to be all over that cottage, blind man or no blind man." "O.K.," and the three separated.

At ten minutes to seven, the car drew up near the blind poultry farmer's cottage. One of the men tiptoed past the cottage for a few yards, then walked briskly back, turned into the garden gate, walked down the long path and knocked at the door. It was quickly opened.

"The postmistress up at the village wants Mr. George Taylor to answer a phone call. A Mr. Matlock wants him."

"Very good," replied young Taylor, somewhat surprised, "Thanks for the trouble." "It's no trouble," replied the crook truthfully, and turned.

A moment later Taylor emerged and walked briskly towards the post office.

It was now dark and the first man tiptoed down the garden path and round to the back of the cottage. Opening the back door, he switched on his torch. Quickly he decided that the diamonds could have only been left in the sitting-room where the blind man would guard them. Tip-toeing through the small scullery into the neat little kitchen, he saw the light of a lamp showing along the bottom of the door. It shone through the keyhole, too, and this told him where the lock and door handle was. He advanced carefully, then suddenly stopped and listened, straining his ears. There was no mistaking it; he could hear a man's voice, but exactly what he was saying he could not tell. He stopped and put his eye to the keyhole but could see only the feet of a man and the crackling fire. He put his ear to the keyhole and could now plainly hear a man reading aloud. He straightened his back and uttered a curse under his breath. It was no use, the other would be back in a few minutes.

He turned, and as carefully as haste allowed, fled up the garden path. His confederate, hearing the quick footsteps, set the car in motion and swung open the door. The man jumped in as it shot forward. "I haven't got it," he yelled above the roar of the engine, "there was a third man Joe could not have known about. No good hanging about here now. That chap'll know something's in the wind as soon as he knows the phone call is crook."

Meanwhile, George Taylor did not want telling twice there was no call for him. He turned and raced up the hill in time to see the man dash out and jump into the car, but he was able to make a mental note of its number. He reached the cottage and burst into the room. There was his case apparently not touched. His blind brother sat with outstretched legs, his left hand in his trousers pocket, his right hand holding his pipe lightly in his mouth, whilst he puffed gently at it with his ear well cocked to a thriller that was being read to him from a TALKING BOOK.

G. FALLOWFIELD.

Cheer from the Sick Ward

R. Z. HURRELL, of Lowestoft, has been staying for the past two weeks in the sick ward at Brighton, with the following result.

☆☆☆
 "Ellee Barno!" a voice sings out. "Karnee Banarto!" comes an answering cry from a bed in the distant corner of the ward. It is the morning greeting, and at frequent intervals during the day it echoes through the ward, and occasionally during the night. "Ellee Barno!" "Karnee Banarto!" Ask what it means, and you will be told it is the language of the Oozlem bird in shorthand. Also on inquiry one will be told that the clump, clump of the beach railway is due to it having square wheels; or that the rumbling of the dinner wagon, as it proceeds from kitchen to ward, pushed by two orderlies, is due to engine trouble. The whirr of the wagon is heard, and a voice rings out, "Come and get it," the signal that breakfast or any other meal is ready. Those able make their way to the dining table, but two, feeling their way along the beds have a minor collision. "Hello," says one, "who are you?" "I am Day. Who are you?" "I am Knight, Sonny Knight," "That's fine. I am Darkie Day." "Good, let's go together and we will be by Day and by Knight." And so they grope their way together to their place at the table and separate with the greeting of "Good-night, Mr. Day"—"Good-day, Mr. Knight."

As we sit at the table the banter goes on. "I say George," a voice says, "will you do me a favour to-day and lend me your face? I want to go ratting." "Sorry, old boy," comes the reply from the much scarred man, "You are unlucky to-day—I am off home. You see, the rate collector calls to-morrow, and I must be there to open the door so that when he drops his bag and runs for it, never to return, I get one of the family his job. The last seven rate collectors have died or given up their jobs."

"Any more dinner wanted?" comes a voice, and it is answered by many—"Any more for the Skylark?"

"Have some of this tripe. It's grand," sings out someone. "Plain one side, purl the other." "I will have some prunes and custard, please." "Shut up," says another. "Every time I hear your voice it looks like rain," but the prunes and custard are forthwith delivered, and the hands

of the sixty-seven-year-old recipient are directed to the plate and the spoon with the remark, "I don't think I shall rear you." "What's the weather like?" comes the voice of a man whose only movements for many years has been from bed to bath-chair. "Fine! A glorious morning!" comes the answer. "Then get my golf clubs ready; I will have a round." "All right. But you will want your glasses on; it is a bit misty."

A cheer goes up as a late arrival dashes in shuffling along at the terrific speed of one yard per minute. "Now then, Arthur, make it snappy." "I'll be right there, Angel Face," comes the laughing reply, "as soon as the traffic light changes." "But who do you think you are—Count Charno, or 'Ore-Belisha?"

And so the good humoured banter goes on, day after day, month after month, and year after year, midst warm handshakes, as old friends depart to and old friends arrive from many distant parts of the British Isles—England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and from the colonies. Comrades, and the best of friends.

"Ellee Barno! Karnee Banarto! Ennee more-for-the-Skylark?" R.Z.H.

[A prize of ten shillings goes to Hurrell as the author of the best contributed article of the month—Ed.]

A New Competition

How many words can you make from the words

ST. DUNSTAN'S HEADQUARTERS

When you have discovered as many as you can, make your list and send it to the Editor, stating at the top the number of words you have found.

The same letter must, of course, be used only once in one word, and plurals are not allowed.

Ten shillings will be awarded to the sender of the longest list and two prizes of five shillings to the next nearest.

Closing date: May 4th.

On St. Dunstan's

FRIEND, we greet you for this pleasant spot
 We know, and should one recollect us not,
 Say we remember, though in days so far
 away.

Our Haven, nay a palace we can say.
 Greetings! For all you stand to be,
 Long life and joy and tranquility.

W.A.M.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Birmingham Walk

April 2nd

OWING to altered conditions, this year's race was arranged as London versus The Rest.

This certainly brought about the keenest possible rivalry. The Rest Team had evidently made up their minds to show the London Team the way to go round the give and take course.

At 5 miles, The Rest had established a 4 point lead, the London Team, however, were not to be denied and redoubled their efforts, so that at 8 miles The Rest were only leading by 1 point, from here there was a terrific struggle for supremacy which resulted in a dead-heat. But what a dead-heat! It was worth going miles to see W. C. Scott being urged by a very red-faced

—yet very proud, young Boy Scout—to maintain his two yards lead from H. Kerr. As Kerr was the last scoring member of his team it will be seen what their efforts meant.

The result shows, that as far as walking is concerned, St. Dunstan's do not believe in the "Too Old at Forty" maxim.

Archie Brown and Jerry Jerome both beat the record for A Section, and so that it would not appear one sided, Tommy ap Rhys knocked a bit off the B Section record also, truly a noble achievement.

Congratulations are due to the various officials who arranged what was described as the best race on record.

Various veiled threats were heard as to what will happen next year, so perhaps it will be as well to arrange for relays of escorts in case the pace becomes too hot and both teams break the record.

Birmingham Walk Result

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap
	<i>hrs. mins. sec.</i>	<i>mins. secs.</i>	<i>hrs. mins. sec.</i>	
A Brown	1 23 35	Scratch	1 23 35	
S. K. Jerome	1 25 10	1 0	1 24 10	
T. ap Rhys	1 25 40	1 30	1 24 10	
P. Ashton	1 26 43	4 0	1 22 43	
W. Trott	1 28 13	4 30	1 23 43	
W. Giles	1 29 5	10 0	1 19 5	2nd
J. Coupland	1 30 28	9 30	1 20 58	3rd
H. Boorman	1 32 3	6 30	1 25 33	
G. Fallowfield	1 33 14	4 30	1 28 44	
W. S. Castle	1 34 30	14 0	1 20 30	3rd but has prize in Scratch Race.
T. Rouse	1 37 3	15 0	1 22 3	
W. C. Scott	1 37 51	15 30	1 22 21	
H. Kerr	1 37 58	14 0	1 23 58	
A. Craigie	1 38 33	13 0	1 25 33	
W. Clampett	1 38 43	14 30	1 24 13	
R. J. Williams	1 42 48	16 0	1 26 48	
P. Cashmore	1 43 27	25 0	1 18 27	1st
J. Walker... ..	1 43 37	17 0	1 26 37	
G. Jolly	1 50 48	23 0	1 27 48	
A. Taylor	1 50 59	20 0	1 30 59	
J. Salt	1 58 39	25 0	1 33 39	

A SECTION SCRATCH RACE.

B SECTION SCRATCH RACE.

	<i>hrs. min. secs.</i>
A. Brown ...	1 23 35
S. K. Jerome ...	1 25 10
P. Ashton ...	1 26 43

	<i>hrs. mins. secs.</i>
T. ap Rhys ...	1 25 40
H. Boorman ...	1 32 3
W. S. Castle ...	1 34 30

TEAM RACE.

LONDON	
A. Brown	1 }
S. K. Jerome	2 }
H. Boorman	8 }
H. Kerr	13 }
	24

THE REST	
T. ap Rhys	3 }
W. Trott	5 }
W. Giles	6 }
W. S. Castle	10 }
	24

"In Memory"

Corporal ABEL BRAERTON KNIGHT.
(*Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry*)

It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of A. Knight, of Bognor Regis.

Knight was wounded at the battle of Ypres early in 1915, when he lost one eye, and was very badly injured in the other. He came to St. Dunstan's and was trained in massage, afterwards setting up practice in Canada. He remained there for some years, and then returned to this country, where he practised in the North of England. His health, which had been greatly affected by his war service, began to get worse, and he underwent several operations. This meant giving up his massage practice, and for the rest of his life he was forced to take things easy, endeavouring to keep in the open air as much as possible. During the past few years it was apparent that he was gradually going downhill, but nevertheless his death on February 22nd came as a great shock to everybody.

The funeral took place a few days afterwards at Bognor Cemetery, and was attended by his wife and family. Also two old St. Dunstan's comrades and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome and Mr. and Mrs. Parkinson, were present. There were many wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Knight and her sons and daughters.

Sapper WILLIAM PAUL
(*Royal Engineers*)

With deepest regret we have to report the death of another St. Dunstaner, W. Paul, of Redcar.

Serving with the Royal Engineers; after four years service Paul came to us in August, 1918, from the 2nd London General Hospital. He was a very apt pupil and secured first class certificates for boot repairing, mat making and netting. He carried on with his various activities for several years, but of late was content to do only wool rug making.

He was ill for a few days only, and his death on February 28th was very unexpected. He was buried on March 3rd, after the funeral service at Redcar Parish Church.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and seven children whom he leaves to mourn him.

Birth

JARMAN.—To the wife of T. A. Jarman, of Copnor, Portsmouth, on March 19th, a daughter—Patricia Winifred.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan, of Wood Green, who celebrated their silver wedding on March 19th, to Mr. and Mrs. D. Gibson, of Winchburgh, whose anniversary was on the 28th, and to Mr. and Mrs. A. Tillotson, of Cleveleys, Blackpool, whose anniversary fell in February.

Miss Lester

Much to her regret, our friend, Miss Barbara Lester, finds that she will not be able to organize a Tuesday evening concert this season. Many business and domestic worries have made it impossible for her to spare the time necessary to ensure a successful evening. "But," Miss Lester writes, "I will certainly do my utmost to arrange a 'bumper' show as early next season as possible."

St. Dunstaner Wanted

We have received a letter from Mrs. A. Walton, of Norwich, who is very anxious that the news of her mother's death should reach the blinded soldier mentioned. She writes:—

"When Mr. Moore was blinded in the War through investigating a German 'dummy,' my late mother visited him in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. He has always remembered her and now she has passed on, and I think it my duty to acquaint him. Mr. Moore came from London."

Derby Sweepstake

Closing date, May 23rd. Mark your envelopes "Derby Competition," and please send your name and address with every application.

Holiday Apartments

Blackpool.—Apartments. Board optional.—Mrs. S. Evans, 36 Orchard Street, Blackpool.

Brighton.—Full board-residence, 30s. per week. Children half price.—Mrs. Stracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Brighton.

Sandown.—A. Vernon caters for bed and breakfast, or full board.—15 Louis Road, Lake, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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St. Dunstaners and Public Service

By the Editor

IT has just been announced that a St. Dunstaner has been made a Justice of the Peace. This is the first time that a war-blinded man has attained to such an office, and it is believed that it is only the second case of a man without sight being so honoured. Our congratulations to the new J.P., and also to St. Dunstan's, which undoubtedly is partly responsible for his elevation to such a position.

For this piece of news is only another instance of the way in which works what may now assuredly be called the "Spirit of St. Dunstan's". We say "now" because, after all, St. Dunstan's has come of age and is now nearing its silver jubilee. From the very start, our Founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, sought to inculcate the idea into every St. Dunstaner, summed up in the familiar slogan "Victory over Blindness", that the aim of St. Dunstan's training was to make it possible for its men, in spite of their handicap, once again to lead normal lives. This last example of what St. Dunstaners have done in the way of public service is a striking example of the success of these efforts.

The ranks of St. Dunstaners have included Members of Parliament at home and in the Empire, county and borough councillors, chairmen of committees, office bearers in the Legion, Toc H and other philanthropic organizations.

But these are not the only examples of public service achieved by St. Dunstaners. Among our men there are several who have achieved distinction in broadcasting; we have quite a coterie of authors; and our lecturers are deservedly acclaimed whenever they speak. Then, too, there are our telephonists, many of them in Government departments or with local authorities; and our masseurs, some of whom have become famous for their work with famous cricket and football teams, and one of whom recently attended a Royal personage on a voyage over half the world. The discussion in our last issue of what our men could do in the way of public service over Air Raid Precautions, and the letters which follow this article are also good examples of the results of St. Dunstan's training.

This, however, is not all. All these cases are more or less spectacular, but it must not be forgotten that every St. Dunstaner who is doing his bit—in however humble a way—is also being of public service. Our poultry keepers, mat-makers, netters, joiners, typists, and the rest are all showing what they can do in the way of public service, for not only are they setting a fine example to others handicapped in the same way as themselves, but also to the community as a whole. In a sonnet, the poet John Milton, when himself blind, declared: "They also serve who only stand and wait". That is a maxim with which St. Dunstan's cannot agree. The St. Dunstan's idea of service is not "to stand and wait" but to get on with whatever job comes to hand, and the proud boast of our organization is that it has constant proof, of which the recent appointment of one of its men as J.P. is the latest instance, that it has achieved its object.

St. Dunstan's and A.R.P.

OUR Chairman has received the following letters from St. Dunstaners regarding the correspondence published last month between P. Garrity and himself in connection with St. Dunstaners' services in a national emergency.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser.

DEAR SIR,

My wife read me your letter in this month's REVIEW re St. Dunstan's telephone operators being of some use during a national crisis. I entirely agree that all the boys would give all the assistance they could.

My wife is now taking a course as an air warden, and I feel that I would also like to do something should the necessity arise.

I think that the majority of the young officers of the present-day police force realize the help a St. Dunstan's operator could be in operating a switchboard and taking messages on his short-hand machine. It would certainly relieve the able-bodied police and firemen to take over outside duties. I should be glad, therefore, if you will submit my name to the A.R.P. at Eccles, Manchester.

R. E. NAMAN,
Manchester.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser.

DEAR SIR,

With reference to your letter in the REVIEW re Air Raid Precautions, the enclosed letter may be of interest to you.

It is my intention to attend further lectures in the near future.

I feel that whenever possible, we should attend the A.R.P. lectures. Firstly, to learn how to protect ourselves and family. Secondly, to be in a position, although slightly handicapped, to help others by telling them what to do. Lastly, the lectures teach one to have confidence in the gas masks, etc., and this confidence and coolness displayed by us in front of other people will go a long way towards preventing panic. Further, I fail to see why we cannot act as assistant street wardens in our own road.

Anyhow, the lectures are very interesting and the knowledge we gain may be of some use.

J. W. MAHONY,
Brighton.

The enclosure referred to in Mahony's letter was as follows:—

Royal York Buildings,
Brighton.

J. W. Mahony, Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I am glad you were able to attend practically all the lectures given by Mr. Noble, and I cannot help feeling that the knowledge which you have gained will be most usefully utilized at St. Dunstan's, where they will certainly find it useful to have a nucleus of the staff with a knowledge of anti-gas measures.

I enclose some forms, which I should be glad if you would pass on to the friends to whom you refer.

E. L. ARDLEY,
(Squadron Leader), A.R.P. Officer.

St. Dunstaner Becomes a Magistrate

FROM the *Manchester Guardian*, April 29th:—

Mr. W. Curtis-Willson, a St. Dunstan's war-blinded man, who for five years has been Chairman and Managing Director of the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, has been made a Justice of the Peace and is to be sworn in to-day. This is the first case of a war-blinded man becoming a magistrate, and it is believed that it is only the second instance of a blind man attaining to that office.

Mr. Curtis-Willson received the M.B.E. in July, 1933, for his work in connection with the organization of Empire shopping weeks at Brighton. He was also Parliamentary Agent for the Conservative Party of Brighton and Hove from 1920 to 1933.

Our St. Dunstaner is also still carrying on in the Army, although as a civilian. He was recently elected to serve on the Sussex County Territorial Army Association as one of the two employer-representatives for the County. Last year his son, Clifford Leslie Curtis-Willson, was gazetted a second lieutenant in the Royal Artillery (T.A.), so that the link with the services is being well maintained. Young Curtis-Willson is a first-class Rugby player, and besides playing regularly for the Brighton Club, has been chosen for his county this season.

Legion Ladies Cheer the Chairman

SIR IAN FRASER received a very warm welcome from hundreds of Legion ladies at the Queen's Hall on April 28th. At the invitation of Lady Edward Spencer Churchill, the Chairman was addressing the delegates of the Women's Section's Annual Conference on St. Dunstan's.

A full explanation of the agreement between St. Dunstan's and the British Legion was given, and the delegates were urged to help St. Dunstan's collections whenever possible.

Lady Edward said that they had a warm corner in their hearts for St. Dunstan's, and as the result of Sir Ian's appeal, many misunderstandings had been cleared up. Although they had their own needs to attend to, she was sure they would also help St. Dunstan's more in the future.

Reunions—Notice

All Reunion meetings will this year begin with lunch at about one o'clock, and will end after tea—about 5.30.

Irish Meetings

THE Irish Reunions were held in Cork, Dublin and Belfast on April 26th, 28th and 29th respectively, and were enjoyed by a very good muster of St. Dunstaners in these areas. Guests included Councillor J. Barrett, of Cork County Council; Mr. Barnes, Chairman of British Legion in Cork; the Lord Mayor of Dublin; Mr. A. P. Connolly, Chairman, Metropolitan Area, British Legion, in Dublin. Among our guests at Belfast were Lady Turner, J.P., and Mr. William Sweeney, Hon. Representative of Wireless for the Blind Fund in Belfast. Major-General Sir J. Cooke-Collis, G.O.C., Northern Command, was unable to attend at Belfast and sent a message of goodwill.

St. Dunstaners will be interested to know that Mrs. Carr and Miss Power, V.A.D.'s in the early days, drove 140 miles to be present at Cork Reunion. Another V.A.D., Mrs. Stowell Taylor, also came to Belfast late in the afternoon, and made a nice little speech about old times at St. Dunstan's. Mr. L. Banks, from Headquarters, who presided at these meetings and interviewed the men, read a message of welcome from Sir Ian Fraser, who was unfortunately unable to be present this year.

At last year's Reunions the Irishmen decided that they would like to give a little presentation to Mr. W. H. Ottaway in recognition of his long service of twenty years in their interests as Workshops Manager and on the After-Care. At Mr. Ottaway's request, the presentation took the form of giving a Braille watch to a civilian deaf-blind man in Cork, one in Dublin and one in Belfast. These were presented to the recipients during the afternoons of the Reunions. The joy and satisfaction that these men showed in their gifts was very touching.

The Irishmen remembered their debt of gratitude to our late beloved Matron Thellusson by standing in silence for a few moments. Murray in Dublin and Boyce in Belfast spoke very feelingly of her kindness, sympathy and wisdom.

Good friends had arranged musical entertainments during the afternoons, and D. J. McLoughlin's Dance Band played at Dublin. These, with competitive games, filled in the time till tea was served, after which the meetings were brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

Garden Topics

ASTERS

AT the end of this month or the beginning of June, according to the weather, you can plant your asters. The sorts that I mention are the very best and strongest growers, and they stand the weather better than any other variety. They are Giants of California, double mixed; plant these in the back row, and in front of them plant Los Angeles. The above should be planted 16 or 18 inches apart each way; they grow 2 ft. high and have flowers 6 in. across. In the front row plant Beacon; this variety does not grow quite so tall but is beautiful. Plant 1 ft. apart. Good plants can be obtained from Edmunds & Co., of Milton, Cambridge, at 6d. per doz.; carriage paid on 5s. order.

Break down very finely the ground that you have prepared for the asters, and plant them just to the first pair of leaves; making firm with the fingers. Water each one 4 in. round the plant, not all over the ground, and the water should have the chill off it.

I hope to give you a few more notes about the plants as time goes on. This has been a very bad season so far.

A. J. HOLLAND.

Young St. Dunstaners

Another son of Mr. and Mrs. Back, of Shaldon, Teignmouth, has entered the Navy. Leslie has now passed his examination as a writer, and joined up on May 10th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Jean McLurg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. McLurg, of Carsduchan, secured third place in a recent dancing display at Newton Stewart.

☆ ☆ ☆

Alan Turrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Turrell, of Leeds, has won a scholarship which entitles him to enter the High School in September. His brother Walter is already at this school.

A Strange Reunion

A NEW St. Dunstaner, J. Dykes, is the author of the following. Dykes was severely gassed in the War, as a result of which he became practically an invalid. Now his sight has gone and he has come to St. Dunstan's. For the time being he is a patient at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, where he wrote this article :

In the year prior to the war, there were four young footballers (three budding professionals and one amateur) connected with a very prominent League club on the North-East Coast.

With the outbreak of war and the cessation of League football, we all decided to sign on for the sterner game. We all enlisted into the Army Cyclists Corps, and it was not long before we had our football togs on again. We played on many League grounds in different parts of the country and soon became known as the Unbeaten Cyclists.

On being ordered to France, we still found time for a game. Eventually we were absorbed into other units ; we four were very fortunate, as we were all transferred to the West Yorks Regiment.

Early in July, 1917, we were at Nieuport in Belgium when mustard gas was first used, and I became a serious casualty. After many months in hospital, I was discharged in 1918 as being unfit for further military service. I became a more or less confirmed invalid.

In April, 1936, blindness overtook me due to the delayed action of mustard gas poisoning, and I was sent to Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton.

Meanwhile the other three went on to the end, and were eventually demobilized, returning once more to civil life and their football careers. The names of my former companions were T. Thompson, T. Wilson and J. M. Seed. Tommy Thompson eventually played for Sunderland, Tommy Wilson played for and captained Huddersfield and Jimmy Seed, after playing for Tottenham, Sheffield Wednesday and England, is now the manager of Charlton Athletic.

While lying in bed at Roehampton, I received a letter from Jimmy Seed stating that he had heard from someone who had recently been discharged from the Hospital who mentioned my name. I was asked to reply by return and to let the writer know if it was the same Billie Dykes who he knew before and during the war.

Needless to say I replied saying that it was the same, also recalling many thrilling games of the past. I received another letter the following day saying that he would be in to see me on the Sunday.

Sunday visiting time came, and although the minutes were slipping by, nobody came. I then realized that Jimmy had gone with his team to Middlesbrough. I was dozing and almost asleep when I heard a voice saying, "Good God, is that Billie?" I thought I was dreaming, but again I heard the voice and I knew then that it was the voice of the pal I knew so well.

I will not give details of what we talked about, but we certainly did talk. He was late in arriving because he had travelled back from Middlesbrough on the Sunday morning and had come straight on to see his old pal whom he last saw when he identified him lying on a stretcher at the C.C.S. on July 10th, 1917. It was just twenty years and seven months after.

Contributory Funds for Widows

SIR IAN FRASER was talking to the men who were at the Brighton Home early this month, when the following discussion took place.

Peach, of Burgess Hill, asked whether further consideration had been given to the suggestion he had made that St. Dunstan's should start a contributory fund for blinded soldiers' widows, the idea being that the blinded soldier himself and St. Dunstan's should each place a shilling a week, or half-a-crown a week, in a fund to give further help to widows.

Sir Ian replied : "I am glad to say we have succeeded in securing that a large majority of our men are in the Government Scheme which provides a pension for widows. Considering the age at which our men entered this Scheme, the benefit of 10s. a week is extremely good value, having regard to the small weekly payment. I hesitate to propose a contributory scheme because I think a good many blinded soldiers could ill afford to pay a shilling or half-a-crown a week, and it would not be quite fair for St. Dunstan's to make such contributions if only a small number of men came into the scheme."

Peach then emphasized his belief that a good many of the men would be interested and asked if the matter could be published in the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW. Sir Ian said he would ask the Editor to publish the question and answer and invite correspondence.

R.A.O.B. Notes

On March 8th, W. Shayler was initiated into the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes at the Lamb Lodge, Liverpool, sponsored by Bro. J. C. Owen, K.O.M., and Bro. Tom Kelly, K.O.M. On March 19th, the same St. Dunstaner was unanimously elected a member of the Rushton Social Circle of which another St. Dunstaner, H. Cook, is the vice-chairman and T. Milner is on the committee.

J. C. O.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the Editor of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, N.W.1.

Please send me the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for { one year } for
{ six months }

which I enclose { 7s. 6d.
3s. 9d.

Name

Address

N.B.—Please strike out the period and charge not required.

Derby Sweepstake

Closing Date, May 23rd

The draw will take place in the Lounge at Headquarters on the afternoon of Thursday, May 26th, and all those drawing horses will be notified on Friday, May 27th.

"Words" Competition

Last month's competition was a very popular one, and, frankly, we did not think it possible for so many words to be found.

P. S. Sumner, of Worcester, discovered no fewer than 1,334 words, and the prize of ten shillings goes to him.

T. Floyd, of Teignmouth, found 1,074 words, and J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, 923. Five shillings goes to each of them.

We must apologize if the ruling regarding the use of the "same letter" caused some misunderstanding. It should have been made quite clear that although the same letter must be used only once, if that letter appeared, say, three times in the given words, it could appear as many times in the word discovered.

For the benefit of non-successful competitors *only*, and in particular, those who misunderstood this ruling, here is another competition.

A prize of ten shillings, and two of five shillings, will go to the senders of the longest lists of words discovered in

EX-SERVICEMEN

Plurals are not allowed; neither are proper names. The number of words found should be stated at the top of the list.

Entries must be received not later than Friday, June 3rd.

Believe it or not

THE other day I went to a whist drive—a semi-partner drive. I commenced with a lady at table 4. We played and got four tricks. We separated and went round two rooms and never met again until the last hand—again at table 4. We got ten tricks, and when scores were added, we both had 78 in the first half, and 85 in the second half. There was a prize for the highest score at table 4, therefore my partner and I tied for it with the same score. We cut and we both cut four. Eventually I won by cutting an ace.

E. SLAUGHTER, Hornsey.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.
DEAR SIR,

I have read with interest the article regarding the British Legion by Captain Sir Ian Fraser, C.B.E., in the March issue of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW. I have been a member of the executive committee of my local branch since its inception seventeen years ago, and I have for the past six years been a vice-president of the Kent Council of the British Legion; also vice-chairman of the Benevolent Committee, so I think I can speak with some knowledge of the internal affairs of the Legion.

The Legion work I have personally taken most interest in has been the pensions section. I have represented my branch on the War Pensions Committee for the past fifteen years, and I believe I am the only man who lost his sight in the War who has ever served on a War Pensions Committee. I have found a lot of pleasure in this work and I feel very proud of the fact that four years ago I was awarded a Certificate of Merit, which is the highest honour the British Legion can bestow on any of its members. For that honour I feel very grateful to my comrades, and I would like to meet any St. Dunstan's man who will be attending the Annual Conference at Newcastle-on-Tyne at Whitsun: I have the honour of representing my branch there.

I can endorse all that Sir Ian has said in his recent article. Major Sir Francis Featherstone-Godley, O.B.E., has been Chairman of the Legion for the past four years, and beyond doubt he is a very able and efficient Chairman, and has filled the office with dignity and honour.

I advise all St. Dunstaners to make themselves conversant with the agreement between the Council of St. Dunstan's and the N.E.C. of the British Legion, regarding the percentage of Poppy Day money which goes to St. Dunstan's, and I would, in all sincerity, appeal to all war-blinded men to join the British Legion. It is a great national organization: it has a constitution and a Royal Charter under which it works for the widows, orphans and disabled men. It has at present 600,000 members and 4,500 branches, with each branch having its own benevolent committee, which renders assistance to ex-Service men and their dependents.

If St. Dunstaners accept Sir Ian's advice they will apply to the local hon. secretary of the British Legion, where they reside. It is open to all ex-Service men who served seven days with the Colours. As well as ordinary members, they accept any male citizen as honorary members, providing they accept the constitution of the Legion. The only class they will not accept are conscientious objectors, although they are accepted as Members of Parliament and given a salary of £600 a year.

There is an entrance fee of 1s., and a minimum subscription of 2s. 6d.; the badge costs 1s.; a copy of Royal Charter, 2d. The motto of the Legion is "Service not self", and another slogan is "Honour the Dead and Serve the Living."

JOIN THE LEGION.—Yours faithfully,

Legionaire J. SHEEHY, Dover.

Merry Go Round

I WONDER how many of our boys visit fairs at this stage of life? I don't mean cattle fairs, but "ye olde fairs" (where the merry go round goes round, etc.). Well, last Birmingham fair the merry-go-round broke down, and, believe it or not, that was one of the tunes on the organ.

Have any of our boys been on the loop-a-planes? This amusement has been out, I think, about two years, and if, by any chance, you have never been upside down in your life, swinging over and over, well, try it and you've got a thrill coming. The loop-a-plane consists of a car holding four persons; you are chained and locked in, and the car starts with a gentle swing of about ten feet high; swinging back to twenty feet; then forward swing and you are nearly over the top; back swing, again nearly over, and then two or three more times and you are over and over.

One word of warning. Don't do what I did—go on after the "local" had shut!

The chair-o-planes are a great favourite of mine, and the speedway cars are all right, too—with a good escort who can drive.

Talking of escorts, I don't advise any St. Dunstaner to go roaming about these fairs alone. Take someone with you, but a word to the money-takers, and you will be given every attention.

I remember going to a fete and gala from the Stratford-on-Avon camp one year. When we arrived there was a full supply of coco-nuts—no one had apparently won any. Jack Dennick had a go, and at the first smash, off they came—five out of six. We had to knock off or we should have won all the nuts the man had. We spent our money, but we had our fun—and we had his nuts.

W. TROTT.

Sutton Coldfield.

National Laying Test

Temporary position of the No. 1 birds to the end of the sixth period:

Hill, R. E.	3433	W.W.	123	
Jackson, G. C.	3361	R.I.R.	116	
Gwyn, A. I.	3427	W.W.	108	} Tie for 3rd place
Campbell, J.	3487	R.I.R.	108	
Jarvis, A.	3367	R.I.R.	103	

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Sports Meeting

At the General Meeting at Headquarters on Tuesday, the 26th April, it was agreed to hold the **General Sports** on Saturday, June 18th, at 2 p.m. and the Regatta at Putney on Wednesday, July 20th, at 1.30 p.m.

Entries for Sports Day cannot be received after **Friday, June 3rd**. Please help us by entering your name and applying for tea tickets early.

Programme:—

1. Children's Handicap Race. Girls and Boys under 6 years. 35 yards.

2. Girls' and Boys' Handicap Race. Six years and under 9 years. 50 yards.

3. Girls' and Boys' Handicap Race. Between 9 and 12 years. 60 yards.

4. Girls' and Boys' Handicap Race. Between 12 and 15 years. 80 yards.

5. Ladies' Surprise Race.

6. Three Legged Race. One Lady and one Gentleman.

7. Egg and Spoon Race.

Events for St. Dunstaners:—

8. Inter-club Cup Competition.

1. Throwing the Cricket Ball.

2. Putting Weight.

3. Single Jump.

4. Treble Jump.

9. 75 yards Sprint, A and B Section.

10. Throwing the Cricket Ball, A and B Section.

11. Putting the Weight, A and B Section.

12. Throwing the Football, A and B Section.

13. Single Jump, A and B Section.

Fifteen Mile Walk

ONE more walking season was brought to a close with the fifteen-mile walk at Wembley on April 23rd.

Record-breaking still goes on, Tommy ap Rhys again reducing the B Section time. Welcome, even if unexpected, was the splendid display of Craigie and Coupland, who finished second in their respective divisions. Congratulations, both of you.

Unexpected also, but greatly appreciated, was the visit of the Swedish Walking Team and their supporters. This team had, earlier in the afternoon, competed in the seven miles English Championship,

obtaining first and second places.

The Natappro Sports Club, our esteemed hosts, in true sporting spirit, invited the visitors from Sweden to have tea with us, which proved a very enjoyable meal, both to the palate and the ear.

The president of the Swedish team, in a very witty speech, said how surprised they were to see the speed, style and enthusiasm of the St. Dunstan's A.C. He explained, however, that it was, "as he had learned as a boy at school," typical of the inborn sporting spirit of the English.

As a mark of appreciation of fellow-sportsmen, a Continental custom was observed by our overseas friends, in presenting bouquets of flowers to the winners of A and B Sections, Archie Brown receiving one from J. Mikaelsson, who was first in the English Championships, and Tommy ap Rhys one from E. Hedberg, who was second.

Quite a new note was struck when R. J. Williams, who finished last in our race, received a souvenir prize from G. Rundlof, who was the unsuccessful Swedish competitor, and their president, Mr. Legner.

Jimmy Coupland was also presented with a bouquet, because as they (the visitors) said, "He is so little, but he does so much."

It was certainly an interesting and enjoyable day for all, for which our sincere thanks are due to the officials and members of the Natappro Sports Club.

Holiday Camp

Saturday, June 25th, to Saturday, July 2nd, at Little Gaddesden House, Berkhamsted. Please note Miss Talbot has invited us to Little Gaddesden this year so the camp is there and not at Stratford-on-Avon as announced in the March REVIEW. Also please note camp starts *Saturday*, June 25th, and not Friday, June 24th, as previously announced. Camp fee, £1. 7s. 6d.

ENTRIES.—Please send me your names not later than June 8th.

VISITORS.—Will those wishing to visit camp please write to Miss Talbot, Little Gaddesden House, Berkhamsted, who has all the arrangements in hand.

A. O. SPURWAY.

The Vicarage,
Titchfield, Hants.

Wembley Fifteen Mile Walk

Competitor	Scratch Race	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Position in Handicap
A.					
A. Brown	1	2·15·6	—	2·15·6	3
J. Coupland	2	2·25·38	11·15	2·14·23	2
P. Ashton	3	2·26·14	5·45	2·20·29	7
A. Giles	4	2·26·59	9·30	2·17·29	6
H. Gover	5	2·28·59	12·45	2·16·14	4
S. Dyer	6	2·36·16	19·30	2·16·46	5
T. Rouse	7	2·36·30	22·15	2·14·15	1
R. J. Williams	8	2·49·26	28·30	2·20·56	8
B.					
T. ap Rhys	1	2·19·44	3·45	2·15·59	4
A. Craigie	2	2·36·27	24·0	2·12·27	1
H. Kerr... ..	3	2·38·34	23·30	2·15·4	3
W. E. Castle	4	2·40·5	18·0	2·22·5	6
W. C. Scott	5	2·45·9	23·30	2·21·39	5
F. Rhodes	6	2·55·28	40·45	2·14·43	2

As a competitor can only take one prize, the Handicap Prizes are as follows :

- A**
1. T. Rouse.
 2. H. Gover.
 3. S. Dyer.

- B**
1. F. Rhodes.
 2. W. C. Scott.
 3. W. E. Castle.

Winner of Dr. Bridges' Cup and Medal : T. ap Rhys.

“In Memory”

Private FREDERICK C. HARRISON

(*Royal West Surreys ; transferred to 302nd Welsh Fusiliers*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of F. C. Harrison, of Leytonstone.

Harrison lost his sight as a result of service in the Great War, and came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 for training. He then set up as a boot repairer and mat maker, and continued at these occupations until 1931, when his health, which had never been very good, gradually grew worse. Nevertheless, his death on March 21st was unexpected, as he had only had a few hours' illness.

The funeral took place a few days later at Woodgrange Cemetery, and was attended by his widow and family, and also a St. Dunstan's friend, Mr. Gardiner, of Leytonstone. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Harrison and her family.

Rifleman GEORGE PARRICK

(*King's Royal Rifles*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. Parrick, of West Croydon.

Parrick was wounded in France in 1916, as a result of which he lost his sight, and also became very deaf. Eventually he came to St. Dunstan's for training, and in due course started work as a boot-repairer, and was able to carry on a very successful business. For some time past, however, his health had not been very good, and it was found necessary for him to have an operation, from the effects of which he did not recover. His death took place on March 15th.

The funeral service was held a few days later in the Croydon Crematorium Chapel, where Parrick's remains were cremated. A Union Jack covered his coffin. There were many beautiful flowers, including a wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, which were afterwards placed on the war memorial in the cemetery.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Parrick and her son in their great loss.

Private WILLIAM B. GILL

(*Labour Corps*)

WITH deepest regret we have to record the death of another St. Dunstaner—W. B. Gill, of Ripon.

Gill enlisted in the early days of the war—1916—and was discharged after three years' service in the Army. He did not, however, come under the notice of St. Dunstan's until 1923. An expert joiner before his enlistment—actually there is work in Ripon Cathedral executed by him when he was a young man—it was, of course, natural for him to return to this occupation when he lost his sight, and he continued to be happily engaged at this work for several years, in which he took the keenest interest.

A few years ago, illness made it necessary for him to give up all strenuous work, and he has of late occupied himself with just a little joinery as a hobby, and the making of an occasional wool rug.

Gill suffered a great deal during his latter years, but he was only seriously ill a few days before his death, which occurred on April 4th.

The funeral was attended by a large number of mourners, including relatives, and among the wreaths sent was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Gill's widow and son.

Births

FRANCIS.—To the wife of G. W. Francis, of Morley, on April 30th, a daughter.

MCQUIRK.—To the wife of W. McQuirk, of North Wimbledon, on April 22nd, a daughter—Jennifer Adeline.

PEACOCK.—To the wife of F. Peacock, of Stokesley, on April 15th, a daughter.

TAYLOR.—To the wife of S. W. Taylor, of Shepshed, a son.

Death

DIXON.—We extend our deepest sympathy to J. Dixon, of Watford, whose wife passed away on April 19th.

Bridge Club

It is proposed to form a bridge club commencing with a bridge drive. Never mind what sort of a player you are; if you are interested send in your name to the Sports Office and a meeting will be called to discuss details.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. McAlonan, of Ringway, who celebrated their silver wedding on April 5th, and to Mr. and Mrs. Ridley, of East Finchley, whose anniversary was on May 4th.

Library

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

RECEIVED
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For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen.

No. 242.—VOLUME XXII. [NEW SERIES]

JUNE, 1938

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Reading Aloud Over Radio

I THINK St. Dunstaners will be interested to hear that serial reading aloud will shortly be started by the B.B.C. An experimental series has been planned as follows :—

Twelve readings from *Portrait of Clare* by Brett Young, read by E. Martin Browne.

Eight readings from *The Old Wives' Tale* by Arnold Bennett, read by Hugh Miller.

Eight readings from *Midwinter* by John Buchan, read by Owen Read.

The first two dates are : Tuesday, July 5th, 1.40 to 2 p.m., and Friday, July 8th, 12.55 to 1.15 p.m., both on the National programme. These days and times are to be retained as fixed points in the ensuing weeks.

I suggested this experiment, the object of which is to prove or disprove the popularity of serial reading aloud. I believe that this innovation will be of interest to many blind people, but it is not intended solely for them. I think that there are many hundreds of thousands of sick people and old people and others who would enjoy twenty minutes' reading aloud at an appropriate time in the middle of the day.

As the readings are being serialized the greatest measure of enjoyment will be secured if the listener hears the beginning and listens regularly. That is why I am calling attention to this matter. Will any St. Dunstaners who think they will like the readings, make a point of listening to them and writing to me after a month or two to tell me what they think about them?

Blinded Sailors and Airmen

At a St. Dunstan's Reunion at Maidstone the other day, a St. Dunstaner who was an ex-petty officer in the Royal Navy, politely called me to order because in my speech I had referred to blinded soldiers and had not mentioned sailors. I remember being similarly put on the mat some years ago at Portsmouth. This is a fair criticism and I plead guilty and offer my sincere apology to my sailor friends. I might add an apology to the blinded airmen as well.

About 95 per cent of all St. Dunstaners were soldiers, and so one gets into the habit of speaking of blinded soldiers as an inclusive term. I have had a brief search of our records made and there are approximately fifty-five sailors, eight marines and eight merchant service men, and there are some forty airmen. No one will attempt to compare the services rendered to the Country by the Royal Navy or the Army, or the Air Force. They were all of the best and the sacrifices made by these arms were in every case all they could offer. The reason for the overwhelming preponderance of soldiers among the blinded is, of course, that the strength of the Navy and the Air Force lay more in ships, machines, bombs and gun power than in individual men, whereas the strength of the Army lay largely in the number of troops that could be put in the field. Moreover if you were a sailor or an

airman you did not stand very much chance of being blinded. You were either alive or dead. I am glad to pay tribute to our blinded sailors and airmen and will try to remember in future to include them in references to St. Dunstan's men. We should all of us do this. The official title of our organization is correct in this respect for it is "St. Dunstan's for Blinded Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen".

The King Talks to St. Dunstaners

Members of the Royal family have always been extremely gracious and kind to St. Dunstaners. There must be scores of occasions upon which a member of the Royal family who is inspecting a guard of honour, or making a public tour of inspection, whether at home or in the Empire, has stopped to say a word of encouragement to one of us. When Their Majesties visited Lancashire recently, they made a point of singling out disabled ex-servicemen for a handshake and a chat wherever possible. Five St. Dunstaners were honoured in this way—J. Greaves, at Oldham, R. E. Naman, at Eccles, E. Lupton, at Burnley, H. Thomson, at Warrington, and J. Spinks, at Ashton. Apart from the good luck of these Dunstaners, upon which we congratulate them, we are glad to feel that St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstan's badge has been thus honoured by the King.

IAN FRASER.

Reunion Meetings, 1938

DURING the past month, reunions have been taking place all over the country, and as we go to press, only the Southsea and Colchester meetings remain.

There were first-rate attendances at all meetings. At some, we welcomed new St. Dunstaners, especially one who made the journey to the Bristol meeting in his invalid chair.

A new competition, "Passing the bowler hat", caused a good deal of merriment, the hat coming off decidedly worse in most cases.

At Bristol, the first meeting, a St. Dunstan's officer, the Rev. Harold Gibb, represented Sir Ian Fraser, and Mr. Gibb also presided at the Birmingham meeting a few days later. Captain A. D. Macdonald, M.C., a member of St. Dunstan's Executive Council, was in the Chair at Newbury. At Manchester on the first day (it was a two-day meeting) Col. Eric Ball, L.C.C., who is Senior Member of our Council and Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, presided. Col. Ball also took the chair at Norwich. Another guest at Manchester was Councillor Moss, who is Chairman of the Blind Persons Act Committee of Manchester City Council. For the first time, the men of the West Country met at Plymouth and here Miss M. Hamar Greenwood, a member of the Council, presided.

Captain Sir Ian Fraser who was accompanied by Lady Fraser on each occasion, presided at the Maidstone, Bedford, Glasgow and Newcastle meetings. A well-known worker for ex-servicemen was our guest at Maidstone. He was Councillor C. Gordon Larking, J.P., Chairman of Preston Hall and Chairman of the Kent Council of the British Legion.

At Bedford, the guest of honour was Mr. Donald Fraser, J.P. Mr. Fraser, who is our Chairman's uncle, is a very well-known breeder of racehorses. Asked for a "tip" for the Derby, Mr. Fraser said, amid laughter "Keep your money in your pockets"—advice which many St. Dunstaners probably wish ruefully they had taken.

Commander A. D. D. Smyth from Headquarters attended the Derby and Leeds meetings. At the latter meeting, Dr. Alfred Roche, M.C., of the Ministry of Health, North Eastern Division, who is Sir Ian's cousin, presided.

Brief Notes

D. Batchelor, of Ratley, near Banbury, won several prizes with his bantams at Banbury Show.

☆ ☆ ☆

St. Dunstan's has received a gift of £25 from Mr. Ronald Colman, the film actor. The cheque was sent from California accompanied by the message, "Good wishes".

Brighton News

DERBY DAY

JUPITER PLUVIUS may have succeeded in damping the countryside on Derby Day, but he had no such effect on the spirits of our party—was it not a new thrill for the majority of them?—they had read, talked and bet on the Derby but never dreamed they would have the chance of going to it, yet here they were, on their way, so what did it matter if rain was threatening—was it not pleasant to be driving through lovely English lanes, to exchange information about tips received from the right quarter, to be units in the stream of orderly one-way traffic and had we not our own medical officer on board in case of heart attacks, strong weaknesses or broken pockets?

The scene on the Course was one not to be forgotten. There seemed to be as many people as leaves in a forest—people drawn from every walk of life, of every shade of opinion, who had thrown off the worries and cares of everyday life, the one object being to spot the horse which would carry off the Blue Riband of the Turf. Everybody seemed to be giving—the bookies were giving the odds—the tipsters were giving information and the punters were giving their money. It was all very exciting and helped one to realise what the ex-Kaiser meant when, on one of his visits here, he remarked, "You English need never fear a revolution, so long as you have racing".

We did not make our fortunes but it was a great outing and there is always the satisfaction of being able to say, "Yes, I was at the Derby when Bois Roussel beat the favourite, Pasch".

Competitions

The prize of ten shillings for the longest list of words made from the one word, "Ex-servicemen" goes to J. H. Mellor, of Addiscombe (160 words).

The runners-up were E. A. Alexander, of Bournemouth (144) and H. Exall, of Peckham (136), both of whom receive five shillings.

Several St. Dunstaners sent in longer lists, but as these contained plurals, proper names, and, in some cases, non-existent words, their numbers were rapidly brought down.

Here is a new competition. Below is a "word-square". You will see that complete words are made whether we read from left to right or from top to bottom.

CAT
ALE
PEN

A prize of ten shillings will be awarded to the sender of the best "word-square" with the word BADGE as the top line. It must, of course, be a five-line square. Mark your envelopes "Word-square" and send in your entry to reach us not later than Monday, July 4th. The Editor's decision will be final.

Garden Topics

HOE the soil between your plants once a fortnight; that is better than too much water.

Now for a short note about tomato plants. Keep all the side shoots out while they are very small, taking care not to damage the truss of flowers, and when you tie them to the stick, leave room for the stem to swell. When the plants that are in the garden have got the third truss of flowers showing, it is best to pinch the top of the plant out three leaves above the truss and you will get better fruit. Never cut the leaves off the plants to the main stem. When the fruit is nearly full grown, just take off the side of the leaves that hang over the fruit and they will be of better flavour, and when the fruit is of that size soak the ground in dry weather once a week with water that has stood in the sun; do not water the plants overhead, and then you will find your fruit will not crack when we get rain and cold nights late in the season.

A. J. HOLLAND.

National Laying Test

Position of No. 1 birds at the end of the 8th period:—

R. E. Hill ...	3433	W.W.	167
G. C. Jackson	3361	R.I.R.	159
D. McLaren ...	3379	R.I.R.	146

Holiday Apartments

Blackpool.—Apartments. Board optional.—Mrs. S. Evans, 36 Orchard Street, Blackpool.

Brighton.—Board residence or bed and breakfast. Terms moderate. One minute sea front and Annexe.—Mrs. Stracey, 4 Bloomsbury Street, Kemptown, Brighton.

Sandown.—A. Vernon caters for bed and breakfast, or full board.—15 Louis Road, Lake, Sandown, Isle of Wight.

Morecambe.—Homely apartments, two minutes sea and bus station.—E. Anderson, Elm House, 16 Balmoral Avenue, Morecambe, W.E.

Derby Sweepstake, 1938

THERE is still no doubt about the popularity of our Derby Sweepstake. Entries this year were up considerably on those of the previous two years. The number of tickets sold was 1,338, and after printing and postage expenses, £160 was left to be distributed in accordance with the published rules.

The draw was made in the Lounge at Headquarters on Thursday, May 26th. A. Craigie and W. E. Ellinson, of Warwick, did the actual drawing, in the presence of Miss M. Hamar Greenwood, Mr. Fobbs and a number of St. Dunstaners and members of Headquarters staff.

RESULT:—

First. BOIS ROUSSEL

J. Fay, Brighton **£80. 0s. 0d.**
Ticket No. 399

Second. SCOTTISH UNION

W. Dimond, East Grinstead **£32. 0s. 0d.**
Ticket No. 753

Third. PASCH

J. Ingram, Maidenhead **£16. 0s. 0d.**
Ticket No. 334

The holders of tickets drawing runners in the race received £1. 13s. 8d. each. These were: C. Ross, Padiham (151), Blandstar; T. Thorpe, Torrisholme (446), Caerloptic; F. A. Cole, Birmingham (1211) Chatsworth; T. Thorpe, Torrisholme (447), Cave Man; W. J. Patter, Gosport (569), Faroe; F. C. Davis, Street (1130), Flyon; A. H. Patston, Paignton (111), Golden Sovereign; G. E. Crook, Herne Bay (427), Halcyon Gift; J. Attrell, Polegate (170), Licence; S. W. Smith, Northwood (640), Malabar; L. Sheridan, Stourbridge (263), Manorite; W. Capstick, Lancaster (814), Mirza II; H. Porter, Southampton (781), Portmarnock; W. F. Cork, Elham (889), Pound Foolish; G. M. Riseley, Marhamchurch (1062), Slip On; W. F. McCarthy, Attleborough (1172), Tahir; S. Dyson, Harrogate (336), Troon; A. E. Hodgkins, Porchester (145), Unbreakable; G. F. Furniss, Bolton (1101), Valerian III.

☆ ☆ ☆

R. Middlemiss, Birmingham (1119), and J. R. Harkness, Hornchurch (418), drew Seventh Wonder and What a Lad which, unfortunately, did not run in the race.

C. H. Wheeler, St. Albans (1254), drew The Field.

The Maidenhead Stroll

ON May 29th a party of St. Dunstan's sportsmen met at Maidenhead Station, and, under the able guidance of Mr. Roberts of the Natappro Club, did a leisurely stroll of some seventeen odd miles through the beautiful country surrounding Maidenhead. The party started off escorted by two bicycles and what had once been a motor car. The weather was kind and so was one of the bicycles, for if any one of us felt leg weary we were pushed up the hills on it by Mr. Roberts. The route chosen led through quiet lanes until we arrived at the old "Bell" Inn at Waltham St. Lawrence, built in the 16th century. A halt was called here for refreshments, liquid and otherwise, and here occurred a very neat little snatch and grab raid. Albert Waite was just handing a sandwich to Charlie Gover, when snicker-snack, it was woofed out of his hand by the landlord's dog. Albert reminded Charlie that there was no necessity to snatch, not realising who had actually partaken of his generosity. When the culprit was found out, Bob Martin who was escorting Franky Rhodes and Percy Ashton, suggested a few of his famous powders might not come amiss to the snatcher, who thereupon disappeared and was seen no more.

After finishing our bread and cheese, we all drank our beer, excepting Leslie Hinds who got his kicked over on to the carpet (Jerry Jerome's big feet got the blame for this) then we all left Waltham St. Lawrence after visiting the old Church. We walked on through White Waltham to the village of Cox Green, where a sumptuous tea was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Speer, to which we all did full justice. We then returned to Maidenhead Station over part of the old 25 miles course, after a thoroughly enjoyable day for which we had to thank our old friend Mr. Roberts for acting as host, and Charlie Gover who organised this very successful stroll. Let's hope it may be the fore-runner of many others.

S. K. J.

For Sale

"Beatty" electric washer, with mangle attached, complete with accessories. Practically new. Cost £37. 10s. Cheap for quick sale.—Capt. R. W. H. Callaghan, 28 Beaconsfield Road, Blackheath, S.E.3.

Blind Howlers

I am no admirer of the synthetic sort of howler which is too obviously a false creation of the adult mind ; those which are natural and spontaneous, the outcome of pure innocence, are often very intriguing.

The genuine variety is like a mirage flattering its victim in a howling desert of ignorance. I have gloated over many which have come my way during a long experience of teaching the blind, and the samples following have at least the merit of being original—fresh, so to speak from the farm house.

"Sound is caused by motion in mater" is a fair example of the kind which come from mis-spelling. "When eating water, H_2O , is necessary to provide moisture". Here, the comma left out makes as much difference as the one wrongly inserted by the parson who is reputed to have written that he "wore no clothes, to distinguish himself from his fellow Christians." The short-sighted reader sometimes mistakes a vowel, and the following line from "Richard the Second," so rendered, was greeted with all the hilarity it deserved—"Bloody with sparring (spurring), fiery-red with haste."

This error was doubtless entirely without guile, but the boy who wrote from dictation that "Quebec stands upon a running commentary (rugged promontory)" may have done so with his tongue in his cheek.

Most of these gems, I suppose, arise from a confusion of words such as Mrs. Malaprop's "Allegory on the banks of the Nile" and her fit of "hydrostatics." Thus when conditions underfoot were very bad one morning after a silver frost, it was said locally that the going was shocking for presbyterians. Our champion howler, invited in a General Knowledge paper to explain what a cheque is, said "it is what they give you at the Co-op when you buy something, but mother says it is no good because you get charged more." From time to time he continues to howl to good purpose, although he is not quite so rash and random as when he defined an autobiography as "a story of one's past life, written by oneself, as if they were some other animal or thing."

What can be said of the following, except that they are too crude for classification?

"The name of Pharaoh's daughter was Pharess."

"The vernal equinox is a green belt of land round the equator."

"Poverty is caused through no money." (This was again the work of our chief howler, and though correct, was hardly an adequate explanation.)

"Rates are a blotch on the scutching of many towns ; they get higher and higher." (This was perpetrated in a moment of elation, following the discovery of "rates" from the anagram "tears").

Talking of anagrams, another boy evolved from "James Stuart" the slogan, Use Jam Tarts, instead of the expected A Just Master.

An interesting glimpse of a boy's sense of relative values is occasionally granted in all unconsciousness. A member of a lower form solemnly wrote, "He lost his book, his wife, and his house," which reminded me of the man in Lincoln who used to drive his pig out of the town during air raids, leaving his wife to shift for herself.

Answers are often disconcerting, because they are, in a way, true.

During a lesson on rivers, an introductory question as to where the rain went when it came down, received the reply, "in the sink". But what I like best of all was the effort of a young Indian who joined us about fourteen years ago. I was anxious to find how far his studies had gone in arithmetic. "How old" he was asked, "would a man be who was born in 1895?" After manipulating the types in his Taylor frame a good deal, he got this right. The date was then moved back to 1869 or so to make the sum a little more difficult, and this too was worked out correctly. Finally he was asked how old the man would be if born in 1848? Some minutes later, I went round to collect the unexpected answer that "he would be dead."

Teaching may be hard work, but it has its rewards ; and after all, one must agree with the saying that boys are the most reasonable of creatures, for they care not how little they get for their money.

P. S. SUMNER.

R.A.O.B. News

E. Williams, of Shipley, was made a Certified Primo of the R.A.O.B. on May 23rd.

"Parting is such sweet sorrow"

WITH the strains of the National Anthem echoing in my ears, I wended my way on to the lawn where everything seemed so tranquil, and where a faint mixture of gas and salt air pervaded the atmosphere. The distant washing of the waves on the beach sounded like a soothing lullaby to all things which were settling down to rest, and all seemed peace and contentment. After a while I turned my steps to the Quiet Lounge—or Braille Room as it is now called—to rest my tired feet after the dance, and was surprised to find it deserted, and from the wireless the loud speaker disgorged a modern dance tune, which sounded more like a score of rampant cats with empty tin cans tied to their tails. I turned it off and sat with my leg swinging over the table just under the instrument, and my thoughts began to wander, eventually resting on the new home in which we should shortly be spending our future Bank holiday week-ends. What would the future have in store for us, what would the winter be like up on the open road, and, most important of all, would there be that happy family atmosphere which has existed for so many years? The tremendous home from home feeling which has pervaded the Annexe since its inception. "Perhaps" I said to myself, "and yet, I wonder. It's the uprooting that hurts, and it has got to be born again. I wonder, I wonder." And my thoughts ran on, one thought tumbling in over another, and suddenly I heard a whisper in my ear, "Thou art thinking of the future, my friend" and without turning my head I replied "Yes" with a deep sigh. "Do not let it worry you, the future for you and your comrades will be all that you would desire, but for me I shudder to think, and I dare not contemplate it."

Who was this who sounded so doleful and forlorn? Not one of the staff, for it was a strange voice to me. I turned my head and beheld a strange figure in a plumed hat and white surcoat, shod in sandals leading upwards from which leathern straps bound cloth coverings round his legs. I recognized him at once. He was one of the Greek hunters from the chase on the tapestries surrounding the walls of the room. "You are of the Caledonian Chase" I said. "Yea" he

replied "I was, but I tired of that, years past. Things of much greater interest entered my life just on twenty years ago when a kind and generous association handed over the deeds of this place to your beloved Founder, Sir Arthur, as you most endearingly call him. You see, I know much about you, for I have watched and watched and never tired of the vigil, and now as the time is drawing so near when I shall no longer be with you to watch and listen, I felt I must speak with one of you, for the time is fleeting and soon the gamesters will be back to fill the tables and the uproar and jollity will be immense and our quiet solitude will end." "Speak on, friend" I said. "Tell me what you have seen and heard and what things have interested you most—I will not interrupt."

My friend sighed deeply once more, paused for a while, and then began. "I have watched your comings and goings, I have laughed with you and sorrowed with you, I have seen you at your work and at your play. There are those whom I see regularly, and there are those who come not again, both of your staff who have seen to your well being, and those of your comrades. But trouble not yourself on their account, for they are with you in a higher realm, and your joys and sorrows are theirs. There are those also who do not come at all, but that is their loss, my friend. I have been deeply interested in the lessons that go on here, and how I have smiled and chuckled at the little man in the corner with his stiff leg stuck aggressively out in front of him, and the pupil before him with a vibrant forefinger hovering over a bepimpled page—Braille you call it—the smile of satisfaction as the poor harassed fellow progresses well, and the sudden change to chagrin, the pursed lips, the wrinkled brow, the sighs of hopelessness and despair as the unfortunate pupil stumbles and ploughs his way along the line at the rate of a minute per letter, wearing one word flat with his quivering pendulant finger before he passes on to the other, and the look of relief on the little fellow's face as the lesson is over. A Master Mason once, and now a Tutor, good hunting for a Yorkshireman. Then there is the little lady who guides erring fingers on a rattling contraption with six keys which makes the spots for him to rub out when he endeavours to read what he has written.

The little bird I call her, a fund of information and a walking dictionary and encyclopedia, for she rarely fails to give you any information you desire of her.

"I have heard your discussions on soccer, rugger and myriad subjects. The various dialects and the language have been difficult to follow, the latter being positively out of my comprehension altogether, and the stories—subtle, yea, very subtle. I have smiled at the sudden cry of 'Sister' as a tale is being related and the teller has suddenly bethought himself that there may be others than the boys present. I have watched the tall Irishman languidly stretch himself out on the settee when no one was about, and the multitudinous trips back and forth of Bobbie, the 'cheerful one,' and the expression of pleasurable anticipation as he passes through on Sundays and calls out 'Ye roast beefe of olde England, Yorkshire and two veg.' I hear the groans and clicks of lips as the racing news is read to you through that wonderful box of tricks, the excitement during the football and cricket season, and I have been as excited as yourselves over your wagers on the great race of the year which has just been run, and this brings me to your card games. You do not throw the dice as we did in our day, it was good, but your card games are much more interesting. Ah! my friend, if you could only see the faces of some of your comrades when they play. The grim look of determination on an 'uncertain misere' as you call it, and the placid air of indifference when holding a cert. I have watched Freddie the incomparable one, Poker Face I call him, sit solidly from hour to hour, speaking barely above a whisper, and only raising his voice when declaring that his cigarette packet is empty and then relapsing into his pose of detached placidity to await the proffered weed. And oh! the post mortems as you call them, after each hand of Bridge, most especially between your friends Cowley and Collins. It is most amusing, and not less is the advice proffered at your elbows by enthusiastic onlookers.

"And so I could go on from one thing to another and as it has gone on, so I have learnt and understood you, and having understood, marvelled at your tenacity and your philosophical outlook on life. Ah! to think that it was all the outcome of that terrible conflict

which I have heard you all talk so much about, and still there are wars and rumblings of more to come. How impotent I feel, and yet all the time have the urge within me such as Omar Khayyám felt when he wrote—'Ah! could you and I with fate conspire, to grasp the sorry scheme of things entire, would we not shatter it to bits, and then remould it to our hearts' desire.'

"But hearken, my friend, I hear distant steps of the returning gamesters, and I must go. You have been patient and borne with me well. Farewell, good friend, fear not for the future: all will be well with you and your comrades, but for me—I fear me it will be naught but the tick-tack of machines, and the odour of malt and beer. Farewell, for here comes one of your comrades well charged with the latter." "Farewell," I murmured, and as I slipped off the table, the door opened and a merry voice called over his shoulder, "Have you got the cards, Blossom?"

"WEEK-ENDERS."

St. Dunstaner Builds Himself a Dug-out

SERGEANT ALAN NICHOLS has built himself a gas and splinter-proof dug-out at his home in Finchley. "The dug-out is 10 ft. by 8 ft. and 18 ft. high. It is covered by 3 ft. of earth, reinforced with bent iron. Ventilation is provided by two sheets of perforated zinc along the edges of the trap door, but when these are removed the chamber will be absolutely air-tight," says the *Hendon Times*. The floor is of cement and the walls and ceiling are timbered with sleepers. Above the roof is a layer of concrete and earth.

When Nichols' nephew, who is a builder living in Leeds, saw it, he made a similar dug-out at Garforth. This has so impressed the local A.R.P. authorities that they are planning similar shelters, and have started work on a specimen dug-out near the Civic Hall.

Mr. Sellers, who is chairman of the A.R.P. Committee, Leeds, told a *Yorkshire Evening Post* reporter, "Mr. Nichols deserves the highest praise. We are very much impressed by what we have seen. It strikes us as the ideal 'funk-hole' for householders."

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Sports Day

June 18th, 2 p.m.

Important Notice

OWING to the lengthy programme, we hope that all taking part will assist us by arriving on the ground sharp to time.

It has been found necessary to change the order of events this year owing to the new ruling in the Shield competitions of each man competing in all events.

The new order of events is :—

1. Children's races : 2-4, 4-6, 6-9, 9-12, 12-15
2. Shield events
3. Heats of sprint
4. Ladies' surprise race
5. Ladies' egg and spoon race
6. Final of sprint
7. Three-legged race
8. Throwing the cricket ball
9. Throwing the football
10. Single jump
11. Putting the weight

Please note that an extra event for the very young children has been added to the children's races, and that they commence sharp at 2 p.m.

Annual Regatta

THE Regatta will take place at Putney on Wednesday July 20th, at 1.30 p.m. It is unfortunate that the date is so late in July this year, owing to other Regattas having been arranged for the 6th and 13th.

Vesta and Thames Rowing Clubs have very kindly loaned their premises for changing once again. Tea will be served at the Thames R.C. as usual.

Below is a list of events. Please help us by sending along your entries in writing as soon as possible and not later than Monday, July 11th.

No competitor may enter for more than two events excluding cup events. In all events prizes will be awarded according to the number of entries.

PROGRAMME

Inter-Club Cup Events (Brighton, Birmingham, London, and Manchester)
Double Sculls
Pair Oars

Single Sculls, Sections A and B.

Double Sculls (at least one Section B man in each boat).

Pair Oars (at least one Section B man in each boat).

One-armed Pair Oars.

Single Sculls, for veterans, 45 years and over. Events for both Sections if numbers permit.

Single Sculls, for totally deaf St. Dunstaners, Sections A and B combined.

Open Fours—The President's Challenge Cup, Presented by Lady (Arthur) Pearson, D.B.E.

Brighton

The keenness of the Brighton sportsmen was very marked at the May sports meeting, and we are looking forward to the next meeting in June.

Young St. Dunstaners

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Condon's daughter, Mary, who will be remembered by many St. Dunstan's men, was married at the beginning of May to Mr. J. E. B. Davage.

☆ ☆ ☆

The son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Welton, of Cleethorpes, has passed his Second Engineer's examination for the Merchant Service. He is the first to do this since the examinations have been resumed in Hull.

☆ ☆ ☆

Another young St. Dunstaner is to be married shortly. She is Sarah Ann, the youngest daughter of J. Daly, of Dublin.

☆ ☆ ☆

Derek, the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Hammett, of Carterton, Oxford, has won a junior scholarship to Burford Grammar School.

☆ ☆ ☆

True to the family tradition, Brenda Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Thomas, of Cricklewood, has passed with honours in the Third Grade Transitional Examination, London Schools of Music.

Births

COUPLAND.—To the wife of J. Coupland, of Preston, on May 29th, a son.

SIDA.—To the wife of H. Sida, of Lovedean, Nr. Portsmouth, on the 21st May, a daughter.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Queen Mary Visits St. Dunstan's

ON Monday, 27th June, Her Majesty Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to St. Dunstan's Headquarters. We were informed of the visit at such short notice that we were unable to arrange any elaborate ceremonial, but this was just what Her Majesty wanted, for she was able to see our Headquarters in its ordinary day-to-day setting.

After receiving Queen Mary we spent a few minutes in the Board Room explaining the nature of St. Dunstan's work and showing Her Majesty the full-sized pictures of the new Brighton Home which were so favourably commented on when they were exhibited in the Royal Academy.

It was a fortunate chance that a strong contingent of St. Dunstaners from all over Great Britain were passing through Headquarters on their way to Brighton. All of these were presented to Queen Mary and we felt that, in the circumstances, they most adequately represented St. Dunstaners as a whole. Their names were: T. Allen, of Durham; W. Bishop, of Harrogate; J. A. Bocking, of Oldham; J. W. Portman, of Salford; J. M. Branegan, of Stockton-on-Tees; A. E. Coman, of Hull; W. Jones, of Kidderminster; T. Kent, of Chelmsford; H. E. Lane, of King's Lynn; T. McCann, of Kirby Cross; S. F. Prideaux, of West Wickham; J. Ryan, of Newton-le-Willows; E. C. Slaughter, of London; C. V. Smith, of Desford; E. L. Woods, of Malmesbury; and G. Gibbs, of London.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson, our President, was unable to be present to welcome Her Majesty, on account of the suddenness of the visit, but happily, Sir Neville Pearson was able to represent her, and Miss Hamar Greenwood, Major Ormond, Colonel Bickerton and Mr. Askew, represented the Council, Medical Committees and staff.

A visit to the Secretarial office led to explanations of our welfare work and of the close and personal contact between St. Dunstan's and every blinded soldier. Queen Mary was much interested in our files relating to our men's affairs and commented on the detailed care with which they were kept.

A visit was paid later to the Appeals Department, where Her Majesty gained some idea of the widespread nature of our organization.

A visit to the telephone switchboard, a demonstration and explanation of the Talking Book, were included in the tour and, after tea in the Chairman's Office, Her Majesty left, the whole staff and men lining the courtyard and giving her a rousing cheer.

I print below a letter I received and my reply. I feel sure that all St. Dunstaners throughout the Empire will echo the sentiments I tried to express when I said that the honour done to those of us who happened to be at St. Dunstan's will be felt and enjoyed by all.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, S.W.1.

28th June, 1938.

DEAR SIR IAN,

I have received Queen Mary's commands to tell you with what pleasure Her Majesty visited St. Dunstan's yesterday afternoon.

Queen Mary was very interested in everything she was shown, and hopes that her visit, taken at such short notice, was not inconvenient to Lady Fraser and yourself.

Her Majesty was greatly struck by the beautiful Club Room (the Lounge at Headquarters), which has been arranged for the comfort of the men, and was also much impressed by the book records.

I am, at the same time, to forward you a cheque for £5, and Queen Mary would like you to give one of these talking books to a patient whom you may select. Perhaps you would be good enough to return the accompanying receipt form.

Yours sincerely,

GERALD CHICHESTER.

ST. DUNSTAN'S HEADQUARTERS,

29th June, 1938.

DEAR SIR GERALD,

Thank you for your letter of 28th June, and for the cheque for £5. I enclose your receipt and an official St. Dunstan's receipt.

Will you please tell Her Majesty Queen Mary how very much all who were at St. Dunstan's Headquarters appreciated her visit. The blinded men who had the honour to be presented would like me particularly to thank Her Majesty for her kindness, and I know that the rest of our two thousand blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen throughout the Empire will feel that they, through St. Dunstan's, have shared the honour.

We are all very touched by Her Majesty's spontaneous kindness in sending a cheque to purchase a Talking Book machine for one of our men. I will choose a suitable case during the next few weeks and will venture to let you know who he is. Will you please offer our most grateful thanks to Her Majesty for her generous thought.

Yours sincerely,

IAN FRASER.

THE HON. SIR GERALD CHICHESTER, K.C.V.O.,
MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, S.W.1.

M.B.E. for Australian St. Dunstaner

IN the Birthday Honours, among the names of those who were awarded the honour of Member of the Order of the British Empire (M.B.E.), appeared the following:—

GLEW: ELMER RENNIE HARRIS, Esq. For services to blinded ex-Service men in the Commonwealth of Australia.

All St. Dunstaners will join in offering hearty congratulations to our Australian comrade. Elmer Glew has given years of devoted service to ex-Service men, and his untiring efforts since the very early days of St. Dunstan's have been responsible for keeping together blinded soldiers in Victoria and other states. We wish him, and all our Australian friends, good luck.

Staff Changes at Brighton

THE old Brighton Home will close down at the end of August as usual. The new Brighton Home will open in the middle of October. As there is no REVIEW in August this would seem to be the right time to notify various appointments and resignations which have taken place over the past few weeks or will take place shortly.

We are, unfortunately, losing the services of Dr. Gemmell, Miss Downing, Miss A. Baker (the Medical Sister) and two of our V.A.D.'s, Miss Vivian Baker and Miss Wildey.

Dr. J. S. B. Forbes has been appointed Commandant and Medical Officer ; Miss Boyd Rochfort, as Matron, and the rest of our splendid staff will all transfer to the new Home, and will be joined by some new Sisters and V.A.D.'s.

Age, illness, private considerations and family matters account for the resignations. Whatever the cause, all our men would, I know, wish me to place on record our sincere and deep appreciation of the services that have been rendered by these good friends of St. Dunstan's.

Dr. Gemmell was Medical Officer to hundreds of our men for fifteen years. His skill as a physician and his understanding and sympathy contributed much towards our men's welfare. Headquarters could always rely upon his wise advice, and to all he was a friend as well as their Doctor.

Miss Downing will have completed over twenty years service with St. Dunstan's at the College, the Ilkley and North Berwick Annexes, and at Brighton. In all these spheres she will be remembered with affection. Sister Baker, Sister Vivian and Miss Wildey have also served St. Dunstaners admirably for twelve or thirteen years. All these ladies, in their long periods of devoted work, must have befriended practically every blinded soldier under the care of St. Dunstan's, and I am sure I am speaking for all when I offer them our most sincere thanks and wish them all possible happiness and good luck in their retirement.

St. Dunstaners who have been at Brighton during the past few weeks will have met Dr. J. S. B. Forbes, the new Commandant. He is a man about our own age, who retired recently from the Royal Army Medical Corps, where he had had twenty years' experience as doctor and administrator. He has been doing the medical work for some weeks, and is gradually taking over his full duties as Commandant. From all I hear, he is most popular with the men and has gained their confidence in medical and other matters. He has a most excellent record and we hope and believe that he will be happy in his work and render most valuable service to our organization.

Dr. Forbes is a member of the Welfare Committee, and comes to London every week to attend it, when he brings with him any matters that have been raised by men who happen at the time to be in the Brighton Home. Although new to St. Dunstan's he is proving so useful in this capacity that we think it will be unnecessary for us to transfer Mr. Banks from Headquarters for this purpose. We are very glad of this, for we need Mr. Banks at Headquarters because of his great knowledge of welfare work.

IAN FRASER

Reunions

WITH the Southsea and Colchester meetings, the 1938 reunions came to an end. Captain Sir Ian Fraser presided at the first on June 14th, and here Matron Boyd Rochfort was the guest of honour. Dr. Forbes, the newly appointed Commandant at Brighton, was another guest at this meeting, but everyone missed Lady Fraser who was unable to be present owing to another engagement in connection with the Brighton Home.

At Colchester, three days later, Colonel Eric Ball, senior member of our Council and Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, presided. Colonel Ball described his many years of association with St. Dunstan's and gave interesting details about the new Home.

At Southsea and Colchester, as at all the other Southern Area meetings, Mr. Ottaway was present, with his usual cheery word of greeting for each man, while Mr. Banks represented the Welfare Department at every Northern meeting.

Railway Travelling Undertaken for Business Purposes

ST. DUNSTAN'S men travelling with an attendant for business purposes at the price of one fare, have hitherto had to make application to the Ministry of Pensions for the necessary voucher for production at the booking office.

The Railway Clearing House have now authorised St. Dunstan's to issue these vouchers as well as the Ministry of Pensions.

Application can accordingly be made to Mr. Askew at Headquarters for vouchers. All applications should state the reason for the business journey, the destination and departure stations, and the date on which the journey is to be made.

Applications should reach Mr. Askew at least 48 hours before a contemplated journey.

Notes from South Africa

DERBY Week in Pretoria has been a most wonderful week in more ways than one. Firstly because of the excitement occasioned by the great race itself and secondly by the visit of our great friend and counsellor, Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, O.B.E.

St. Dunstaners at home will hardly realize that we in South Africa take as much interest in English racing as themselves. Yet it is nevertheless a fact that the interest taken in South Africa is every bit as keen as that shown in England. On the great day we get the broadcast commentary of the race just as clear as it is heard in Brighton or London, and have the result before many, who are present on the Epsom racecourse, hear it. I was disappointed at the non-success of the St. Dunstan's stable in the Derby, but its two successes later in the week made up for any disappointment I may have felt.

Now a word about the second great event, mentioned above. Every St. Dunstaner will remember Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, that wonderful lady who has devoted so many years of her life in our service, for she has been with St. Dunstan's ever since its inception in 1915. She still remembers all the old boys, and when she was in Pretoria last week she was inquiring about those of you I had met during my recent visit to England. It is really wonderful the amount of work Mrs. Bates manages to get through in the course of a year, and the many thousands of miles she travels, for it must be remembered that she visits each St. Dunstaner out here once a year, and this in itself is a gigantic task. Moreover, she is often travelling from town to town organizing street collections, and when she visited Pretoria last week she had just completed a wonderfully successful effort in this connection in Johannesburg. She is adored, not only by St. Dunstaners out here but by everyone with whom she comes in contact, for her wonderful charm and tact. St. Dunstaners all over the British Empire owe her a debt of gratitude, for it should be remembered that the results of her efforts are divided between South Africa and England.

A reception was held in her honour in Pretoria on Derby Day, which was attended by about two hundred of the leading citizens, including Mesdames H. P.

Veale and M. G. Nicolson, President and Vice-President respectively of the Pretoria Committee, and Lady Wessels, who is also a Vice-President. The Mayoress of Pretoria was also present. The address delivered by Mrs. Bates was listened to with great interest and the gathering was very much impressed, so much so, that several new names were added to the committee during the afternoon. Tea was served and a very enjoyable musical programme followed. In the evening, the writer and Mrs. Denny had the honour of dining with Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Young, wife of Captain Young, who was indisposed, forming one of the party. And so ended Derby Day, 1938. I missed the broadcast of the great race, but the visit of Mrs. Chadwick-Bates more than made up for it.

St. Dunstaners in South Africa have suffered another great loss by the death of Miss A. Whiteman, R.R.C., who died in Pretoria during May. This lady did yeoman service for St. Dunstan's for many years. Prior to her retirement in 1932 she was for twenty-five years Matron of the Leper Asylum, Pretoria. Over five hundred persons attended her funeral.

Once again I bid you all farewell and send my best wishes to all the boys and members of the staff. Oh, for a quick one at the "Barley Mow"! E. DENNY

A Slotted Spade

CAPTAIN G. FARRANT, of Felton, Somerset, who is a disabled ex-Service man, has brought to our notice a special slotted spade which he has invented which is of particular use to disabled gardeners. He claims that it considerably lightens the work of digging, the slots being so arranged that clogging is reduced to an absolute minimum. It contains less metal than the old solid spade and is therefore always light in the hand.

Two St. Dunstaners, J. Hughes, of Sanderstead, and W. H. Wright, of Verwood, Dorset, have tried out the spade and highly recommended it. Wright says: "I have put it to different tests—light soil, heavy loam, and sod—and it is satisfactory to all tests. I prefer it to the ordinary spade for its lightness and non-clogging in wet soil."

The spade, which has an all-bright blade in a solid steel socket, is 10s. 6d. (T handle) or 11s. 6d. (rivetted D handle). Treads 1s. extra.

Brighton News

IT seemed that all who could possibly get down for the last Whitsuntide holiday at the old Home did so, with the result that there were many reunions of old and almost forgotten friends. "Week-ENDER" hit the nail on the head when he made the spirit say, "There are those who never come; that is their loss," for where on earth is one more likely to run across an old acquaintance, or the chance of a game of cards, or of tripping the light fantastic, and perhaps assisting at one of those enjoyable concerts which reach such a high standard whenever the artists are drawn from our own boys?

But those who were lucky enough to get down were fortunate in more ways than one, for the weather was both sunny and invigorating, so that all the entertainment was not indoors. There were long walks over the Downs, a sea bathe for a few hardy ones, whilst many took the opportunity of paying a visit to the new Home.

The Seven Kings Cheerful Sparrows in their flight south alighted at our annexe with the fruits of their winter's harvest, which provided the necessary to take our boys for a couple of circular drives round the country to High Salvington, a typical English country village, tucked away in the folds of the Downs. With the fresh clean breeze blowing about I fell to thinking—if only some of the so-called ideologists who hold the destinies of nations in their hands could find a spot like this and do a little quiet thinking, they might be persuaded to scrap their old ideas and realize that the peace they talk so much about will only be achieved when there is an economic system which is compatible with true Christian principles.

What a dream to be awakened from and brought back to realities by the sound of the machine which was to whirl us back to that world of noise and speed just over the hill! Anyway, thanks once again, Seven Kings, "for the memory."



Her Majesty Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to St. Dunstan's Headquarters on Monday, June 27th. A number of St. Dunstaners from all over the country who were passing through on their way to Brighton were presented. Queen Mary is seen looking closely at a St. Dunstan's badge, in the Lounge at Headquarters.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR EDITOR,

Thank you for your kind reference to me in your April issue. You were quite right in stating that my many interests on behalf of one section of the community or another, keep me fairly well occupied, and my St. Dunstan's friends will be glad to know that my health appears to be as good as ever, permitting me to make full use of my opportunities.

In the same issue the suggestion was made that information regarding ex-members of the staff, particularly those of early days, would be of interest to readers of the Review.

Well, perhaps, everybody will like to know that the greenhouse presented to me five years ago has given me unbounded pleasure both in propagating and later enjoying the results. And may I say to those who enjoyed the joke, it is still a "Whitehouse greenhouse painted green."

Year after year I have been particularly lucky with schyzanthus, and frequently people in the neighbourhood have requested to be allowed to come in and see the wonderful show of blooms. Azaleas, too, seem to thrive, also ferns—particularly the maidenhair variety. Cineraria do well, but they are inclined to become "lousy" in a general greenhouse, and therefore they cause a bit of trouble. primulas, gloxinias and begonias always excel themselves. All this without any heat beyond the sun.

Of course I cannot mention everything, but I think I have said enough to show "the boys" that their present has been put to good and successful use, and that I possess a constant pleasant and useful reminder of their regard for me. I frequently hear from some of them, and recently I had the good luck to attend the re-unions at Bristol and Newbury.

Yours faithfully,

E. KESSELL.

20 Geneva Road,
Kingston-on-Thames.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

It was pleasing to read in the recent issue of the REVIEW that one of the boys was desirous of learning something of the movements and activities of some of the Staff since their retirement.

Many of the men I used to visit, I feel sure, would like to hear *something* of what I have done since my enforced retirement.

At first I did not feel like taking up anything else, but eventually I joined a technical class organized by the local society for the blind and was able to be of some service.

These classes were held during the autumn, winter and spring, and during the summer, outing parties were organized; we went for rambles in the country, or paid visits to some of the factories and works in the district.

I carried on with these classes for two or three years, and then the Secretary of the local society recommended me to the Liverpool Headquarters of the British Legion, who were anxious to have one of their men trained, as his sight had become so impaired that he could

no longer carry on with his trade as a motor mechanic. I was able to give him instruction in basket-making, re-seating of chairs in cane and sea-grass, and the results were very satisfactory. This man had reached the age of forty-five, but he had wonderful initiative, which made the work much easier and very pleasant.

For the benefit of those St. Dunstaners who are members of the R.A.O.B., I would like to say I am still keeping up my interest in the order, and I obtained my K.O.M. in March, 1937; I am therefore on my way for my R.O.H. I hope to be spared long after that, for the honour is a long way off yet.

Though I keep in touch with a number of my old boys by correspondence, it will be realized how impossible it is for me to keep up a regular contact with *all* of them, as my original list contained more than a hundred names. If, however, any boys care to drop me a line at any time, I can assure them they will get a reply.

Though I retired in 1932, I have not entirely severed my connections with St. Dunstans, as I still get an invitation to the Liverpool and Manchester Re-union meetings from Headquarters. I cannot say how grateful I am for this privilege, as it gives me an opportunity of seeing many old friends that I could not otherwise see.

Yours faithfully,

H. HAY.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

On Saturday, July 2nd, Bath held its annual British Legion Parade and Fete. It was considered the biggest parade since the Branch was organised. I had the pleasure, with several comrades, to represent the Keynsham-Saltford Branch, and was given the honour of taking the lead of my branch in the march. I was the only chair case present at the Parade.

Our first halt was made at the Memorial where a poppy wreath was laid and tribute paid to fallen comrades. We then moved on to Victoria Park for the March Past, the salute being taken by Colonel Lord Strachie, J.P. After the March Past, my father was given the signal to fall out of the ranks, and when the Parade was dismissed, Lord Strachie came along to me and we had a nice chat together. Instead of wearing the old school tie, I displayed my St. Dunstan's badge. Lord Strachie said, "I see you're a St. Dunstaner." "Yes, sir, and proud of it." "Then you are being cared for. I am sorry to see you in a chair, but it is a great pity that more men like you do not turn up on these parades, because the public would realise more the evils of war and what the Legion stands for."

During the march, my 82-year-old father took control of my chair, and was congratulated on the way he stuck to his guns. He told me that a St. Dunstaner spoke to him saying he would come and have a chat with me later. This would have added more pleasure to the afternoon, but unfortunately we did not come in touch with each other. I should very much like to know, through the REVIEW who the comrade was.

Yours sincerely,

G. S. CHAPPELL.

Saltford, Bristol.

St. Dunstaners at the British Legion Conference

SIR IAN AND LADY FRASER were guests of the National Executive Council of the British Legion at their Annual Conference at Whitsun. Sir Ian had combined this visit with attendance at the Glasgow and Newcastle Reunions of St. Dunstan's.

The Chairman told the Editor that he had the opportunity of meeting the National and Local Chairmen of the Legion, as well as many friends amongst the delegates. He attaches great importance to the maintenance of the best possible relationship between St. Dunstan's and the Legion, and was glad to find great goodwill towards our organization among all whom he met.

Three St. Dunstaners were present—W. Muggeridge, hon. secretary of the Local Benevolent Committee of the Effingham and the Bookhams Branch of the Legion; John Sheehy, Vice-President of the Kent Council and Vice-Chairman of the Benevolent Committee, and Charles Durkin, Vice-President of the South-Western District, Metropolitan Area.

Muggeridge, on behalf of the Effingham and Bookhams Branch, in a most admirable speech, proposed the following resolution, which was carried without debate.

No. 25. "That this Conference views with alarm the recommendations of the Central Valuation Committee to co-relate rateable values with the existing rental values which by reason of inflated rents for small properties, discriminate unfairly against that section of the community already overburdened with taxation.

"This conference therefore requests the National Executive Council to use every effort to prevent the recommendations of the Central Valuation Committee becoming effective, in order to prevent unnecessary hardship to ex-Service men—particularly the disabled."

Do You Play Mah-Jongg?

WE have had presented to us a mah-jongg set with Braille markings. This set was cleverly designed and executed especially for the use of blinded soldiers by the staff of the Flinders Naval Dockyard, Australia.

The Editor would like to have the names of all St. Dunstaners interested in this game.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS

Weston-super-Mare.—Mrs. Bull caters for Bed and Breakfast or full board. 62 Southend Road, Weston-super-Mare.

General Franco and the War Blinded

WE take the following from the *New Beacon* for June:—

Among his provisions for the war blinded and other totally disabled soldiers in his army, General Franco has provided, in a decree dated February last, for free medical and orthopaedic treatment and medical supplies for those disabled men who need them. Official supervision is to secure for the soldier in the ranks the employment of a personal servant where constant personal attendance is necessary. The servant is to receive a minimum wage of 6 pesetas (at present values about 1s. 6d.) per day, the sum to be deducted from the pensioner's salary.

Soldiers are to receive annual pensions of 6,000 pesetas (about £72. 10s.) and Generals totally disabled are to retire on double pay.

Blinded soldiers are to receive the title of Caballeros Ciegos de la Guerra (Blind Knights of the War).

Garden Topics

THIS has been such a bad season that there is not much more that I can write about this year.

Be sure to remove all dead flowers, as soon as they are over, from antirrhinum and sweet peas. This will ensure much more flower. Take off all buds from carnations, when they are small, leaving only the one at the top.

If you want large flowers on your chrysanthus, disbud to one flower on a stem as the shoots appear, but if you want sprays of flower, leave four or five buds at the top. Stake them out well and feed with liquid manure or a good fertiliser. Be sure to use the latter to instructions—do not overdo it—and leave it off when the buds begin to open. Then keep them watered if the weather is dry.

The asters I have mentioned in previous articles will want a strong two-foot stake. Tie the centre of the plant twice as it grows, letting the side flowers hang out themselves. You will spoil the effect if you tie them in.

That is all for this year. I hope my articles have been a help for some of you.

A. J. HOLLAND.

Community Swimming

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THERE are countless text books to tell us how to swim, but I have never come across one yet which teaches us how to community swim, or, in simpler language, how to bathe. Anyone who has the knack, health, courage and strength, and who has taken a few hundred lessons, can learn how to swim well enough to drown himself, but it is a much more difficult matter to learn how to bathe well. Bathing is such a very public business, especially seaside bathing, and there are countless pitfalls into which the unwary may stumble, and many metaphorical jellyfish on which even the best intentioned may inadvertently step.

I propose, therefore, to give a few hints on bathing behaviour.

In the first place, it must be firmly understood that bathing at the seaside is very different from bathing in the local baths. You don't have to stay out of the sea on Tuesday because it is ladies' day, wait until mixed bathing day on Sunday before you can go in with your wife, or go to the other end of the town on Saturday, because they are emptying it and putting clean water in. You just select your sea, and make it your own, whatever the day of the week.

Having found your sea, put on a bathing costume. You can have what is known as a "one-piece costume" or a "two-piece" one. A quiet effect, such as your old school colours, if something like yellow and red in alternate stripes is advisable, and ribbons are not being worn this year.

Hats are rarely worn. A *beret* in sponge bag material is just tolerated, but the bowler is rigidly taboo. An umbrella is useful if it is wet. On a stony beach, shoes should be worn, not pumps or patents which give the wearer rather a bizarre appearance, but that species of footwear facetiously known as "sandshoes." At most of our watering-places, the poor things live and die without having ever seen a grain of sand, but I suppose that hope springs eternal in their flimsy soles.

Thus equipped, you prance lightly into the ocean, carefully remembering not to scream when you first make contact with the water. Entering the sea during the height of the season is not nearly so easy as it sounds. Several other people have

got the same idea. Remember, however, that a bather can pass through a paddler, or even a foursome of paddlers. It is their business to give way, and, if they don't, you are perfectly entitled to immerse them in the water they are fiddling about with. It doesn't matter if they don't reappear. Paddlers were born to trouble as the spray flies upwards. Incidentally, of course, a swimmer can pass through bather, and invariably does, leaving a cloud of foam, a strong man's curse, and a heavy backwash behind him.

Once in the sea, immerse yourself. I know it's unpleasant, but it's got to be done sometime, and it's best to get it over as soon as possible. The best way to do it is to wait until the water has reached your waist, and then to stick your head between your feet. The water will do the rest.

Some bathers have a playful habit of dashing large chunks of the ocean over each other, and then laughing merrily. Sometimes it's all right, but don't butt in on other people's merrymaking. If you throw water at a stranger, you will give him a shock, but not nearly such a shock as he will give you when he has recovered his breath.

Getting out of one's depth is a habit sometimes affected by the inexperienced. For the non-swimmer it is an exciting but undependable hobby. The first thing to do when you suddenly find that you've got water all round you, under your feet as well as everywhere else, is to scream for help like a madman. It is undignified, but safer in the long run, because treading water is much more difficult than treading the solid earth. When rescued, it is better to go to the bottom of the class, and join the paddlers.

If the sea is very full, and you want a clear space, you had better take your Alsatian with you. You will be surprised how accommodating the rest of the bathers will be. Your pet can also carry your soap, shrimp net, fishing rod, and gull rifle. If it had a hip pocket, it could be even more useful.

These hints of course are mainly for bathers. If you can swim, don't bathe. Just go round to your local baths and enjoy yourself. You'll save a return fare and avoid the risk of being trampled to death as you try to fight your way to the sea between the legions of the paddlers and the cohorts of the tanned.

National Laying Test

R EPORT for the ninth period of four weeks, May 16th to June 12th, 1938.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Campbell, J.	...	993
2	Brown, M. Watson	...	842
3	Carpenter, E. H.	...	824
4	Knopp, H. A.	...	806
5	Fisher, T. M.	...	785
6	Gwyn, A. Ivor	...	775
7	Holmes, Percy	...	771
8	Jackson, G. C.	...	758
9	Hill, R. E.	...	673
10	Jarvis, Albert	...	652
11	Hamilton, B.	...	616
12	Hammett, H. A.	...	615
13	Powell, G.	...	604
14	Smith, W. Alan	...	595
15	Chaffin, Albert	...	590
16	Woodcock, W. J.	...	581
17	Brown, C. H.	...	580
18	Roberts, Harry	...	574
19	McLaren, David	...	571
20	Capper, A. H.	...	566
21	Fisher, T. M.	...	564
22	Holmes, Percy	...	558
23	McIntosh, Charles	...	496
24	Smith, W. Alan	...	479
25	Capper, A. H.	...	454
26	Hamilton, B.	...	449
27	Webb, W.	...	430
28	McLaren, David	...	335
29	Stock, C. H.	...	320

Position of the No. 1 birds at the end of the ninth period :—

R. E. Hill	3433	W.W.	184
G. C. Jackson	3361	R.I.R.	178
D. McLaren	3379	R.I.R.	170

Brief Notes

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith, of Grassmoor, near Chesterfield, has presented them with a grandchild weighing nine pounds.

☆ ☆ ☆

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Francis, of Morley, is doing well. Francis made her cradle himself—a really splendid piece of work.

☆ ☆ ☆

Those St. Dunstaners who knew her will regret to learn of the death of the mother of A. H. Rodgers, of Barrow-in-Furness.

?

IT was a fine afternoon, the sun shining brilliantly, and I was walking down the Strand accompanied by an orderly from the hospital.

Suddenly, to my amazement, the orderly left me and jumped on to a passing bus. I walked further on and got on to a bus (No. 33). On arrival at Hammersmith I alighted and crossed the road and tried to get on to a 666 bus. This I was unable to do, owing to the crowd.

I got on to the next bus, No. 72, and eventually arrived at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton. On alighting from the bus I was standing admiring the front of the Hospital, when I felt someone get hold of my arm: "Your tea is ready, Dykes." It was the same orderly who had left me.

I awoke with a start to find it only a dream. I had fallen asleep in the ward armchair.

Now here is the peculiar part of the affair. First, I have never been in the Strand since losing my sight; neither have I been on one of the London buses; nor had I been to Hammersmith before; nor have I seen the outside of the hospital. Secondly, on describing the affair to the others in the ward, it was found that I had given a correct description of the various places and buses, even to the description of the front of the hospital.

I have mentioned this matter to several friends and acquaintances, and all give conflicting opinions, and the question still remains: What is the explanation?

J. DYKES

Mrs. Chaplin-Hall

A LL St. Dunstaners, and in particular those who were trained at the Massage School, will be gratified to learn of the award of O.B.E. conferred upon Mrs. F. A. V. Chaplin-Hall, Secretary of the Massage Department and School of the National Institute for the Blind, in the recent Birthday Honours.

☆ ☆ ☆

A number of player-piano records have been given to St. Dunstan's. As they are twelve-inch rolls, however, they will only fit certain instruments. St. Dunstaners owning a player-piano which will take twelve-inch records are invited to write to Mr. Askew.

Young St. Dunstaners

Lawrence, the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Smith, of Leicester, has won a First Class Scholarship which should enable him to go to a secondary school in the autumn.

☆ ☆ ☆

Yvonne Pearce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, of Hendon, presented a purse to Queen Mary when Her Majesty attended the opening of an extension to Mildmay Mission Hospital, Bethnal Green.

☆ ☆ ☆

Grenville, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe, of Leeds, is now a gunner in the Royal Artillery.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pearl Yarwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yarwood, of Wythenshaw, who already holds many trophies for dancing, came second in the girls under 14 class of the Alderley Edge Musical Festival. Pearl obtained a first class certificate for her singing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Edwin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Brooks, of Bournemouth, has passed into the Navy.

☆ ☆ ☆

Ronald, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Whitham, of Dunswell, has won a scholarship which enables him to enter Riley High School in September.

☆ ☆ ☆

Lily Sattary, whom many St. Dunstaners will remember, since she was over with Mr. and Mrs. Sattary from South Africa some two years ago, was married on April 30th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Neil Stewart, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane, of Queen's Park, has passed an examination enabling him to become a student at the Regent Street Polytechnic.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Owen, of Blaenau Festiniog, secured first place in a scripture examination held throughout the county of Merionethshire.

☆ ☆ ☆

The sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. Healey, of Bradford, are making big names for themselves as boxers. William, aged 16, has won two silver cups for the Championship of the schoolboys of East Lancs and East Cheshire for 1937, and James, aged 14, the Manchester Schoolboys' Football Champion's medal for 1938.

Edward, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Brockie, of Torphins, has won first prize for the first year in the Higher Grade at his school.

☆ ☆ ☆

Henry Chafer, the son of our St. Dunstaner, H. C. Chafer, who died some time ago, joins his ship in August after training at Hull Navigation School. He has won medals and certificates for life saving, international code, etc.

☆ ☆ ☆

Joan Corns, twin daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Corns, of Kenton, is being married on July 31st at Kenton Methodist Church, to Mr. Gilbert Bradley, of Newcastle. Joan and her sister were the first twins to be christened at St. Dunstan's Chapel, by Captain Williams, in June, 1920.

☆ ☆ ☆

Jack Clamp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clamp, of New Bradwell, has won a certificate for violin playing in the Bedfordshire Competitive Music Festival in the section for children from eight to nine years old.

Competition Result

MOST of the entries in last month's "Word Square" competition were true word squares—the five words spelt across were exactly the same when they were read from top to bottom. It was of course much more difficult to fit in words which had not already been used. P. S. Summer, of Worcester, introduced two variations into his square and receives the prize of ten shillings. G. Nancarrow, of Newquay, and G. E. Wilkins, of Reading, however, found one variation, and five shillings is going to each of them as a special consolation prize.

Summer's square was—

B A D G E
A R E N A
D E P O T
G N O M E
E A T E R

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bolton, of Bexley Heath, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on July 6th.

Golden Wedding

The parents of H. F. Porter, of Southampton, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on May 21st.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Sports Day, 1938

THE annual General Sports were held on Saturday, June 18th, on the Sports Ground in Regent's Park in weather that can only be described as ideal.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser attended the sports in the afternoon and met and extended a welcome to St. Dunstaners and their wives.

This year we had the additional pleasure of a visit from a distinguished friend in the person of Brigadier General W. E. C. Tanner, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Chairman of St. Dunstan's South African Committee, on a visit to this country with a party of ex-servicemen. Accompanied by his son, he met, and was photographed with, the teams competing in the sports.

This year the competition for the Inter-Club Challenge Cup was different. Each member in each team was required to compete in all four events with the result that the competition was more open, and after a good fight the final placings were:—London, 11 points, first; Manchester, 7 points, second; Birmingham and Brighton tied for third place with three points each.

Once again the St. Marylebone British Legion Band played during the afternoon with a splendid programme of music and our grateful thanks are tendered to them for such an entertainment. Our thanks to Mr. Pinder whose arrangements for the amplification of announcements during the prize giving were a great help.

After an excellent tea, served indoors, prizes were presented on the lawn by General Tanner. At the conclusion, in an appropriate speech, Sir Ian thanked all helpers and staff who had made such a successful afternoon possible.

Results

INTER-CLUB TEAM COMPETITION

1ST LONDON. 2ND MANCHESTER

3RD Tie (BRIGHTON and BIRMINGHAM)

(London Team: J. McFarlane, G. Brown, S. Webster, W. Birchall)

A. Section

B. Section

75 YARDS SPRINT

1. Steel
2. Walker
3. Scott

1. Webster
2. Greaves
3. Peach

CHILDREN

Girls under 4

1. Mary Loveridge
2. Joan Billington
3. Brenda Hodgman

Girls under 6

1. Grace Fallowfield
2. Shirley Tomkinson
3. Marie Lenderyou
4. Jesmond Scott
5. Violet Bonner
6. Pamela Hodgman

Girls under 9

1. Jean Smith
2. Jill Scott
3. Brenda Hazel
4. Mary Ashe
5. Phyllis Moeller
6. Jean Miller

Girls under 12

1. Brenda Thomas
2. Enid Pimm
3. Marjorie Fallowfield
4. Margaret Frampton
5. Irene White
6. Edith Samworth

Girls under 15

1. Peggy Smith
2. Barbara Tomkinson
3. Joan Fallowfield
4. Betty Cheshire
5. Avis Peckham
6. Sylvia White

Ladies' Surprise Race

1. Mrs. Webster
2. Mrs. Park
3. Miss Abbott
4. Mrs. Wiltshire
5. Mrs. Smith
6. Mrs. Loveridge
7. Mrs. Ashton

Boys under 4

1. Derek Scott
2. George Fallowfield
3. David Roden
4. Norman Hunt
5. Peter Triggs

Boys under 6

1. Geoffrey Craddock
2. Richard Gimber

Boys under 9

1. Ernest Samworth
2. Peter Glendennan
3. Robin Colley
4. David Loweridge
5. John Rickaby
6. Andrew Colley

Boys under 12

1. Roy Craddock
2. Victor Glendennan
3. Harry Tomkinson
4. Geoffrey Webster
5. Derek Corns
6. Alan Brown

Boys under 15

1. Benjamin Barnard
2. Stanley Pimm
3. Albert Samworth
4. John Howells
5. Vernon Triggs
6. Leonard Frampton

Ladies' Egg and Spoon Race

1. Mrs. Ashton
2. Mrs. Deegan
3. Mrs. Abbott
4. Miss Kirk
5. Mrs. Meredith
6. Mrs. Fallowfield

Three-legged Race

1. Mr. Lacey and Miss Money
2. Mr. and Miss Matthews
3. Mr. and Mrs. Fallowfield
4. Mr. and Mrs. Park
5. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson
6. Mr. and Mrs. Gannaway

A. Section

Throwing Cricket Ball

1. Meredith
2. Roden
3. James Cook

Putting the Weight

1. Cook
2. Walker
3. Gimber

Throwing the Football

1. Steel
2. Crook
3. Roden

Single Jump

1. Crook
2. Scott
3. Fallowfield

B. Section

Throwing Cricket Ball

1. Wiltshire
2. Brown
3. Dennick

Putting the Weight

1. Brown
2. Greaves
3. McFarlane

Throwing the Football

1. Peach
2. Lacey
3. Dennick

Single Jump

1. Birchall
2. J. R. Brown
3. Webster

“In Memory”

Private WILLIAM THOMAS MONAGHAN

(12th Cheshire Regiment)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of another St. Dunstan's man—W. T. Monaghan, of Wallasey. Enlisting in September, 1914, Monaghan came to St. Dunstan's early in 1918, having lost his sight as a result of wounds received at Salonika in August of the previous year.

Trained as a boot repairer and mat maker, he carried on with these trades for a time, but of later years his interests were centred in his refreshment business and kiosk, of which, strangely enough, he had just negotiated to dispose at the time of his death.

After a stay at Brighton for a holiday, he was taken ill while in the South, and died in the Royal Sussex County Hospital on June 9th.

He was buried, however, in his home town. A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, and we extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and and two children.

Lance-Corporal HARRY REGINALD PALMER

(The East Kent Regiment)

WE deeply regret to record the death of H. R. Palmer, of Buxted.

Palmer served in the Great War and was badly wounded in one of the 1915 engagements, when he lost the sight of one eye and shortly afterwards, as a result, the sight of the other. In due course he came to St. Dunstan's, where he was trained as a basket maker; recently he had spent a good deal of time at wool rug making. His death, which was due to a stroke, was unexpected, as previously he had been fairly well in health.

The funeral took place at Buxted and was attended by his family and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Palmer leaves a widow and four sons and daughters to mourn his loss, and to whom we extend our deep sympathy.

Sergeant JOHN WILLIAM MACAULEY

(9th Black Watch)

WITH deepest regret we have to record the death of J. W. Macauley, of Prestwich.

Enlisting in 1915 Macauley was wounded on the Somme in 1917 and came to St. Dunstan's a few months afterwards. During the same year as his admission he was decorated by Sir Francis Lloyd at St. Dunstan's with the Military Medal.

A splendid workman, he gained first class certificates for basket making and mat making, but for some years has really concentrated more or less on his baskets.

His death, which took place on May 15th, was most unexpected, as he had been in comparatively good health and busy with his work. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and children.

Births

BRIGGS.—To the wife of A. G. Briggs, of Norwich, a son.

DAKIN.—To the wife of H. A. Dakin, of Herne Hill, on July 11th, a son.

KING.—To the wife of L. R. King, of Brighton, on June 23rd, a son.

Deaths

We offer our deepest sympathy this month to the following :—

BALL.—To J. Ball, of Lupset, whose wife died suddenly on June 10th. Mrs. Ball had a stroke after attending the Leeds reunion and passed away the following day.

LEEMAN.—To Mr. and Mrs. Leeman, of Fotherby, Louth, whose invalid son passed away on July 12th.

Marriage

BOORMAN-PAYNE.—On June 25th, at West Tisted Church, F. W. Boorman, of Ropley, Hants, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Payne of Ropley.

Points from Letters

“Were any St. Dunstan's boys on the Punjab Frontier 1897-8 under General Lockhart when Sir Havelock Allen was killed in the Khyber Pass? Or were there any in Africa during the Peace Conference at Vereeniging? My regiment (the Royal Munster Fusiliers) was guard of honour then to Mr. Joe Chamberlain coming through the veldt. I was there.”

A. GALLAGHER,
Strabane.

“I attained my 71st year on January 5th. The old adage, ‘Old soldiers never die,’ seems to fit in with me. I enlisted in the 22nd Cheshires, in September, 1883, and was transferred into the R.A. in November of the same year. I was firing big guns at Gibraltar when King Alphonso was born and fired them at Gib. on the anniversary of Queen Victoria's Jubilee.”

J. PERCIVAL,
Salford.

As in previous years, there will be no REVIEW published in August.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 244.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

SEPTEMBER, 1938

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Memorial to Miss Thellusson

AFTER Miss Thellusson's death, St. Dunstaners asked us to facilitate the collection of a Memorial Fund. Mr. Askew, who acted as honorary treasurer, has handed over the sum of £27 16s. 6d., a most worthy subscription and notable also for the fact that it represents individual contributions from such a very large number of Miss Thellusson's blind friends.

At the time, I asked in these Notes for suggestions as to the form the Memorial should take. One suggestion which I mentioned as having been made to me was that the Memorial should be in a form that blind people in particular would appreciate. Following this idea we have chosen two clocks which will strike a chime every quarter of an hour. They are handsome clocks of the latest electrical pattern and will stand one in the big Lounge and one in the Dining Room at the new Home. There will be an engraved plate on each clock bearing the following words:

"The blinded soldiers, sailors, and airmen of St. Dunstan's subscribed a fund to purchase this clock, and the one in the Lounge (or Dining Room, as the case may be) as a Memorial to the late Miss Adeline Thellusson, O.B.E., Matron of St. Dunstan's (1917-1937). When they hear the chimes they will think of one of their best friends."

I hope the subscribers to the Fund will feel that this is an appropriate Memorial. It certainly seems to me better to have something which our blind friends will hear whenever they are at the Home than a plaque or wall tablet or other object which only seeing people could appreciate.

Oculists

At the end of this year Colonel R. E. Bickerton, D.S.O., M.B., B.Ch., will retire on account of seniority from his position as Ophthalmic Surgeon at St. Dunstan's. He will, however, remain a member of St. Dunstan's Ophthalmic Advisory Committee, so that his great wisdom and knowledge of ophthalmic problems in general, and of St. Dunstan's and St. Dunstaners' problems in particular, will continue to be at our disposal. We acknowledge a deep debt of gratitude to Colonel Bickerton for his long and devoted service extending as it does right back to the years immediately after the War. Not only have hundreds of our men had the benefit of his skill and experience as a doctor, but all will agree that a visit to the Surgery on the occasion of his weekly session at Headquarters was a tonic in itself. His genial personality, kindness and understanding has always been appreciated and will be remembered.

St. Dunstaners hear little of the Ophthalmic Advisory Committee but its work is very important and the distinguished gentlemen who compose it, namely Sir Arnold Lawson, K.B.E., F.R.C.S. (Chairman), Major A. W. Ormond, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., and Colonel Bickerton, D.S.O., M.B., B.Ch., bring honour and distinction to St. Dunstan's by their membership and render most valuable service by their readiness to meet and give their advice and counsel on any general ophthalmic matter or in any special case that may be referred to them.

On the recommendation of the Ophthalmic Advisory Committee, the Council has appointed Mr. R. C. Davenport, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., to take Colonel Bickerton's place. Mr. Davenport will visit Headquarters once a week, starting in January, on a day to be fixed, in just the same way as did Colonel Bickerton.

Mr. Davenport is on the staff at Moorfields, the eye hospital which is world-famed, and has a record and reputation which gives us the highest possible confidence in his appointment. He served in the War as a medical officer, and has had wide hospital experience and may be said to be one of the best of the younger men in the Harley Street area. St. Dunstan's is fortunate to have secured his services.

Oculist for Brighton

Dating from the opening of the new Convalescent Home at Brighton, Mr. T. K. Clifford, M.B., Ch.B., has been appointed consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon to St. Dunstan's, Brighton.

Mr. Clifford has been similarly recommended by our Ophthalmic Advisory Committee and we are fortunate to have been able to secure the services of a surgeon residing in Brighton who is so well qualified to help us in our work. Mr. Clifford is a younger man who qualified since the War, but he also has a very good record and considerable hospital experience. He is at present Honorary Assistant Surgeon at the Sussex Eye Hospital. This appointment has been made because it is felt that it will be convenient for men staying at the Convalescent Home and suffering from eye trouble to be able to secure advice and treatment on the spot. Dr. Forbes, Medical Commandant of the Home, will arrange appointments with Mr. Clifford for those in residence or for men who live in or near Brighton, when these are necessary.

IAN FRASER.

The King and Australian St. Dunstaners

Three Australian St. Dunstaners, J. S. Harrison, of London, G. Matrenin, of Alington, and A. Craigie, of Western Australia, now in this country, attended the unveiling, by His Majesty the King, of the Australian Memorial at Villers Bretonneux on July 22nd. During their inspection of the Guard of Honour, His Majesty had a special word for G. Matrenin while the Queen spoke to Harrison.

Silver Weddings

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Richardson, of Baron's Court, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on August 3rd; to Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Westell, of Moor Park, Liverpool, whose anniversary was on August 25th, and to Mr. and Mrs. H. Gardiner, of Leytonstone, whose anniversary will fall on September 28th.

Her Majesty's Birthday

ON August 4th, the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the following telegram was sent to Balmoral from Captain Sir Ian Fraser.

TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

The British blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen under the care of St. Dunstan's throughout the Empire send their loyal birthday greetings to Your Majesty.

IAN FRASER, Chairman.

The following telegram was received in reply:

TO SIR IAN FRASER.

Please convey to the British blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen under the care of St. Dunstan's throughout the Empire the Queen's sincere thanks for their kind and loyal message on the celebration of Her Majesty's birthday.

STREATFIELD.

Marriage

STERNO-OLIVER.—On Sunday, July 24th, A. Sterno, of Bath, to Mrs. Oliver, of Paris.

Brighton Outings

From the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, July 9th:

"They are all so happy and excited. What makes them laugh so much?"

Curly-haired Mickey, youngest son of Viscount Gage, paused to ask this question while inspecting the blind "boys" of St. Dunstan's, at Firle Park, on Wednesday.

To anyone not associated with St. Dunstan's the high spirits of the "boys" might have seemed surprising. But Wednesday was a gala day for St. Dunstan's, for as the guests of the Brighton, Hove and District Grocers' Association the war-blinded men were taken for their summer outing.

Early in the afternoon some 230 St. Dunstaners packed into nine Southdown coaches and were taken on a circular tour of the countryside.

Firle Park was reached at five o'clock, where by kind permission of Viscount Gage the party took tea in the riding school, and toured the beautiful grounds.

While at tea the St. Dunstaners were delighted when Viscount Gage's three little children came in to see them.

The sincere thanks of St. Dunstan's for the royal way they had been treated were given by several speakers following tea. In reply, Alderman A. E. Cobbin, J.P., a former Mayor of Ealing (representing the Federation of Grocers' Association), told the "boys" that whatever the grocers had done on behalf of St. Dunstan's they had done with a very grateful heart.

Mr. P. C. Moon, president of the association, took the chair at tea. He was supported by Dr. J. S. B. Forbes, the recently appointed commandant of St. Dunstan's, the Rev. H. A. Eyton-Jones, vicar of St. George's, Kemp Town, and padre of St. Dunstan's, Mr. S. H. Loose (president-elect, Greater London Council of Grocers' Associations), Mr. T. Hancock (representing the Sydenham association), Mr. R. E. Geere (council chairman, Brighton Grocers' Association), and Mr. A. J. Smith (past president). Members of the St. Dunstan's committee who attended were: Mr. A. L. P. Trotman (chairman), Mr. W. A. Yeoman (hon. secretary), and Mr. J. F. Mellor (hon. treasurer and secretary of the association).

The party spent a delightful evening at sports before returning at a late hour to Brighton.

From the *Sussex Daily News*, July 21st:

West Sussex gave a grateful welcome yesterday to blind members of St. Dunstan's, Brighton, when the eighteenth annual outing, organized by the Brighton, Hove and District Omnibus Co. and the Southdown Motor Services, Ltd., took place.

One hundred and sixty patients and attendants left Brighton in five Southdown coaches and spent over twelve hours in the sunshine and air of the West Sussex Downland.

The first leg of the day's tour was to Fittleworth, where hospitality was extended by Mr. J. Thorpe, J.P.

A fine run through Cowdray Park to Midhurst preceded dinner, served in the local Drill Hall. The Chairman of the Outing Committee, Mr. A. E. Cannon (Managing Director of Southdown Motor Services Ltd.) presided, other mem-

bers of the Committee present being Messrs. Mark Richards (Hon. Secretary), L. Benstead, J. Short, W. Clark and F. Mortby. Mr. F. Arnold (Director of the Brighton Bus Company) was also present.

The local Committee appointed by the British Legion Branch presented each man with a large packet of cigarettes and a florin.

In the afternoon the guests were taken to the beautiful lawns surrounding the Cowdray Ruins. For two hours they revelled in an impromptu dance.

Tea at Midhurst was followed by a pleasant spin to the tiny hamlet of Crocker Hill, in the parish of Aldingbourne. From year to year, the landlord of the Winterton Arms, Mr. F. Arnell, organizes whist drives and darts matches to raise funds for the annual supper of St. Dunstan's, and here the company enjoyed supper and an entertainment provided by the Band, by local talent and by the guests themselves.

Captain J. A. Cochrane-Barnett, a member of St. Dunstan's, voiced the feelings of the guests when he expressed thanks to "a magnificent Committee" and a multitude of helpers.

St. Dunstan's Golfer

From the *Sunday Express*, July 7th:

Famous Mr. ("Believe it or Not") Ripley has invited Mr. W. H. J. Oxenham, forty-three-year-old blind golfer, of London and Hove, to demonstrate his skill in America.

Mr. Oxenham, a doctor of osteopathy, leaves England next Wednesday with his secretary-wife and caddie-chauffeur.

He will be away four or five weeks in America and Canada, when, as Mr. Ripley's guest, he will broadcast, play in exhibition matches, possibly with Walter Hagen and Gene Sarazen, and go "sightseeing."

All proceeds of the matches are to be given to blind charities.

This is Mr. Oxenham's first trip across the Atlantic. He hopes to meet his two brothers Sidney and Albert in Toronto. They have not met for thirty years.

Until five years ago Mr. Oxenham had never even handled a golf club. He started to play by accident; now his handicap is 20.

Letter to The Editor

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,
DEAR SIR,

May I ask, through your columns, what course a wife should take in the event of an air raid, saying the case is such: husband totally disabled, unable to move at all by himself; young children terrified. Is the wife's duty to her disabled husband or to the young children, or, instead of attempting to get to an air raid shelter, should they all stay together and trust to luck? I favour the latter as the kiddies, if they got to a shelter, might be orphaned, and life for them wouldn't be very rosy. My hubby favours the "Save the children first." It's a problem that may not arise; yet on the other hand it might. In any case the problem is the same in case of fire.

The question is—what would you do?

MRS. TUXFORD,
Redditch.

Dartfulness

BY A CORRESPONDENT

DARTS is (are?) both literally and figuratively in the air. In marble halls the game is now played by the very best people in the very worst possible way. At "The Three Cockchafers" (my "local" in the heart of Essex) it is played as Providence meant it to be played—in an atmosphere of sang-froid and sawdust; of mild when criticizing one's own side; of bitter when commenting on the deficiencies of one's opponents.

Last Saturday, for example, was a typical "dart night". A team from "The Mothers' Ruin" in the next village came to play us, six good men and true. They had not visited us before, and when they saw the battleground they gave the impression of being sorry that they had looked in now. For the fact is that geographical factors and local hazards give our own lads a considerable advantage in their home fixtures.

To start with, our tap room, although old and picturesque, is definitely small, probably measuring about 15 by 14½ feet. It is also low, the ceiling being of the good old-fashioned Dachshund variety and nearly touching the ground. It is also dim, for the illumination is provided by oil lamps reinforced at the dart board by twin candles, one on either flank of the board. It is also hot, for the big open fire consumes, not coal, but half Epping Forest. It is also crowded usually.

It is also catholic in its tastes, for, in addition to darts, dominoes is popular. So is local slander and despondency over the failure of the week's football pool. Add to this the landlord's feverish attempts to push through the mass of citizenry with trays full of pints of "mild", and it can be appreciated that the visiting darts team has to play on a pretty sticky wicket.

Anyhow, after first giving a surprised whistle and then wetting it, the Mothers' Ruiners won the toss and the first man, in an effort to miss the ceiling, threw so low that he hit the floor to delighted cries of "Come up, Emma". His next dart did miss the floor only to hit the ceiling to a chorus of "Up in Annie's room", and his third which went well and truly into the bull was greeted with a stony silence by

our supporters and a jubilant cry of "Bung 'ole" from his comrades.

After this things became a little complicated as a noisy game of dominoes kept on butting into the dart tourney. The result was that at one moment when sixty-six was scored at darts you would hear a yell of "Clickety-Click" closely followed by a triumphantly bellowed "Double Blank". This so put out one of the foreign darts-men that he promptly threw a double blank off the board.

As the first darts game drew to its end the shouts grew wilder and wilder. Eventually our side only wanted a double ten to get out. "Two old hens", bellowed our supporters. ("Fives are threes", murmured a domino player, not to be put down). Double five was then wanted. "Two young wives" we all yelled. ("Six 'oles", muttered a ruminant dominist.) Then double two was needed. "Two Jews", cried we dart-Aryans. Then double one only was wanted. "Looney bin", we shouted. One of our men must then needs score one one. "Ones cracked", muttered we. "Rabbity", said the opposing captain nastily.

So the game went on. There was throw after throw and finally our opponents only needed a double one too. But the "Looney Bin" is not nearly so easy to get into at darts as it is in real life, and æons of time seemed to go by while the whiff of the sausage supper to be paid for by the losers became stronger and stronger.

At last our captain could stand the strain no longer. He was also our local cricket captain. With a masterly left and right he put out the candles at either side of the board with two darts and turned to his opposite number.

"Appeal for bad light", he proclaimed. The other, a cricketer too, said "Appeal allowed". And so the match ended in a draw.

("One 'ole", muttered a disconsolate dominist.)

"I Was There"

The letters which we printed last month from F. Gallagher, of Strabane, and J. Percival, of Salford, have aroused considerable interest. We invite other St. Dunstaners to tell us of any important events at which they were present. Only a sentence or so is needed, merely giving the occasion and the briefest details. Mark your envelope, "I was there."

Keep Fit Campaign

ON July 2nd four of the "Awkward Squad," Messrs. Coles, Gover, Waite and Rhodes, with the greatly appreciated assistance of Mr. Hinds, had a most enjoyable walk. We met at Baker Street at 1.45 p.m. and set out along our familiar road, the Outer Circle, Regent's Park, heading for Hampstead Heath. Our escort, knowing that part of the world very intimately, selected all the hills and rough roads possible; nevertheless, after two-and-a-half hours' good walking, we arrived at Hampstead Heath Station, tired, hungry and thirsty.

To finish this perfect Saturday afternoon the organizer of the walk, H. Gover, invited us to his home, where we had lots and lots of tea and some interesting games of bridge, and the grand climax came when Mrs. Gover provided a jolly fine supper which was thoroughly appreciated.

Those interested in rambles should send their names to Mr. Swain and, if desired, other strolls can be arranged during September and October.

F.A.R.

Briefly

When Lobby Lud of the *News Chronicle* was at Ramsgate on July 27th, he left a ten-shilling voucher on the post-card counter of E. Storey's shop in Chatham Street.

☆ ☆ ☆

Another of our shop-keepers, G. H. Phillips, late of New Southgate, was given a very nice little notice in the *Aldershot Budget* upon his arrival in Aldershot to take over a newsagents', tobacconists' and confectioners' business there.

☆ ☆ ☆

Among the names given in the last REVIEW of St. Dunstaners presented to Queen Mary, J. W. Portman should read J. W. Boothman, of Salford, and G. Gibbs, as G. Tibbs.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. H. Hay, whose letter to the editor was published in last month's REVIEW, now lives at 14 Mossgate Road, Knotty Ash, Liverpool.

Reminiscence

I WONDER how many St. Dunstaners can recall the river trip in July, 1917, kindly given by a Mr. Reed or Reedy? Personally I have good cause to remember, as I played a prominent part in an incident that took place on that day.

Along with seventy-five other blinded or disabled men from St. Mark's Hospital, we were taken up the river to Kingston-upon-Thames, and after a splendid lunch we were entertained by members of the theatrical profession. We afterwards played games in the grounds of the hotel and then, after a jolly afternoon, we again boarded the boat, which took us to an island in the Thames. While sitting there on the grass listening to the band playing, I had an uneasy feeling. I asked my escort if I was near the water to which he replied, "Yes, you are within two yards of the water's edge."

Later we were asked if we would go on board the house boat to have our photograph taken. When I got on board I noticed that my escort and I seemed to be in an enclosed part of the boat. I remarked that the boat seemed to be lowering but my friend said it was imagination. Then I felt water at my feet and at the same time my friend climbed through a window. As the water reached my hips, I felt the boat touch the bottom; then feeling my way towards the window I heard someone say, "I think they are all safe." I promptly called out saying I was still on the boat. Someone told me to put my hand through the window, and as I was being pulled to safety, I felt the boat slip from beneath me. I was afterwards told she had rolled over on her side. Several of the party asked if I was all right to which I replied that I was feeling white. This joke brought three V.A.D.'s with brandy and soda.

I arrived back at Chelsea none the worse after a good bath and hot Bovril.

T. E. SKELLY.

A Double Event

We mentioned last month that Joan Corns, of Kenton, was being married on July 31st. We now find that both Mr. and Mrs. Corns' twin daughters Joan and Gladys, were married on that day, our St. Dunstaner giving them away.

Young St. Dunstaners

Angela, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Thompson, of Carshalton, has passed her matriculation examination with credits in seven subjects.

The son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Butler, of Waterford, are making names for themselves as racing cyclists. At Villiers-town Cycling and Athletic Sports, their daughter won the ladies' mile race, and their son the six miles road race from thirteen competitors, after a thrilling struggle. The *Dungarvan Observer* wrote: "Miss Butler proved to be a young cyclist of outstanding merit and cut a hot pace from the start, winning easily by nearly half a lap."

Thomas Llewelyn, son of Mr. and Mrs. ap-Rhys, of Bangor, who is eleven, has passed the entrance scholarship for Carnarvon County School, getting second place in a list of forty successful candidates.

Edna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Farmery, of Portsmouth, won first prize for doll-dressing at Portsmouth Hobbies Exhibition.

Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hodkin, of Shaldon, has been awarded a scholarship by the Devon County Agricultural Committee for the National Diploma in Dairying, at Seale-Hayne College, Newton Abbott.

The eleven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Westell, of Liverpool, and Donald, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Kerr, of Widnes, have passed the entrance examination for their local secondary school.

Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Marshall, of Southend, has passed with merit her third Music Examination under the Trinity College of Music.

Evelyn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Gaffney, of Salford, has won a scholarship to Tootal Road High School.

Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook, of Wood Green, has passed his matriculation, while Beryl, their daughter, has won a scholarship to Trinity County School.

Joan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sayers, of Minster, has won a scholarship to Ramsgate Secondary School.

Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Allen, of Morecambe, has won a scholarship to Morecambe Grammar School.

The daughter of the late C. F. Jones, and Mrs. Jones, of Llandegla, has won a scholarship for Denbigh County School.

Allan, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Turrell, of Leeds, has won a scholarship to Cockburn Grammar School. His brother, Walter, obtained a similar scholarship some time ago.

Francis Durkin, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Durkin, of Putney, has passed the Royal Air Force Examination for aircraft apprentices, open to secondary school boys in the United Kingdom. Francis was placed 164th from 1,894 competitors.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the tenth period of four weeks, June 13th to July 10th, 1938.

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Campbell, J.	1087
2	Brown, M. Watson	913
3	Carpenter, E. H.	910
4	Knopp, H. A.	901
5	Fisher, T. M.	869
6	Gwyn, A. I.	857
7	Holmes, P.	827
8	Jackson, G. C.	822
9	Hill, R. E.	749
10	Jarvis, A.	709
11	Woodcock, W. J.	682
12	Hammett, H. A.	677
13	Hamilton, B.	673
14	Brown, C. H.	654
14	Chaffin, A.	654
16	Smith, W. Alan	649
17	Powell, G.	636
18	Capper, A. H.	634
19	McLaren, D.	629
20	Roberts, H.	624
21	Holmes, P.	596
22	Fisher, T. M.	592
23	McIntosh, C.	558
24	Webb, W.	505
24	Capper, A. H.	505
26	Smith, W. Allen	502
27	Hamilton, B.	485
28	Stock, C. H.	348
29	McLaren, D.	346

Our Darts Players

ST. DUNSTANERS have quickly adopted the new national game—darts.

Within a few weeks of each other, two of our men have caused quite a stir in the Press, each issuing a challenge to all-comers.

The following extract is from the *Surrey Comet*:

This week I watched Yorkie and Grinder (otherwise Mr. Harry Hollings, of 12 Linden Crescent, Norbiton, and Mr. Kelvin Gatrell, of 14 Sudlow Road, Wandsworth), play a darts challenge match at the Grove Tavern, Norbiton. Both are players of some standard who would not have much trouble in applying a "white-wash" to such a humble dartist as myself, but what so staggered me about their performance and made me wrap my darts in black crape was that they are both completely blind!

The challenge match was arranged when Mr. Gatrell heard of Yorkie, and the first round was played a week ago at the "Hop Pole", Putney Bridge Road, Wandsworth, when Yorkie gained a victory in two games of 301 up. The return match was staged at the "Grove Tavern" on Tuesday, where Yorkie was on his home ground.

Usually Yorkie likes both to start and to to finish on a double, but as Kelvin was a stranger to the "Grove Tavern" the players agreed to start on a nominated number. Kelvin decided on 15, and Yorkie on 16, and there were cheers when Kelvin started with his third dart, whilst Yorkie did not get a break until his seventh, by which time Kelvin had a nice lead. "Now lad, I must pull meself together," declared Yorkie, and he promptly did, with two 20's and a 60. The game was excitingly even until Yorkie wanted 50, which he got quite calmly with two darts, scoring 10 and a double 20 to finish.

In the second game Yorkie simply raced away and was at 34 before his opponent had started, Kelvin made a great effort to pick up but the game and the match went to Yorkie.

The two blind men then joined forces and played Mr. W. J. Barnes (licensee of the "Grove Tavern") and Mr. A. J. S. Swinfield (of the "King of Denmark", Wimbledon). Each side wanted a double four to finish, and Mr. Swinfield missed when it was Yorkie's throw afterwards. The atmosphere was tense as he aimed for the double four and got a single. His second dart landed in the single two, but the third, with deadly accuracy, was clean in the double one, to win the match.

Who are these blind dart players? Yorkie comes from Bradford, used to work as a grinder, but twelve years ago got a flint in one eye and lost the sight of it and later became completely blind. He is an old soldier with 12 years' service with the 1st Lincolnshire Regiment before the War, during which he joined up again and saw service in France, with the Yorks and Lancs Regiment. Now his one interest is darts. He is not only deadly on the doubles, he often lands one dart in the flight of the other.

Mr. Gatrell was serving in the Royal Sussex Regiment on Messines Ridge when an exploding

shell cost him the sight of both his eyes. He has only taken up darts during the past ten years, but is also a clever cribbage and domino player.

The two blind players have issued an open challenge to all comers.

The following comes from the *Daily Mirror*:

Darts comes easily to Mr. Billy Walker, fifty-one, of Musgrave Gardens, Durham.

He will score any number you ask. He will nominate which numbers he will obtain. He will play round the board or any other dart game.

And Mr. Walker is blind. He is ready with a challenge to any blind man in England.

"It was in 1917, when I was serving with the Durham Light Infantry, that I lost my sight," Mr. Walker told me as he finished a game. "It was as a result of mustard gas."

Mr. Walker travels with the dart team of his favourite inn in Durham, and it is his privilege to play the landlord of the opposing inn.

"I usually manage to win," he said.

"After I became blind it was a great hardship for me to do without my sport. I thought I should never be able to play darts again.

"But in 1924, when I was having my usual half-pint, some of my friends, who had been playing, said: 'Why don't you have a try, Billy?'"

"At first it was not easy even to hit the board, but after a bit of practice it all came back."

S. C. Mackey of Dulwich, is another whose skill at the game has been commented upon in the Press.

The Disaster

THERE was a terrific crash of glass, and the splinters flew in all directions.

The speed at which it had travelled must have exceeded that of any ordinary express yet, at that same spot, only a month before, a similar crash had occurred; fortunately, with no loss of life. Although the day was bright and sunny, none of those startled persons, tucked up within, could see any sign of the daylight. There was no fear or panic; all were calm and silent, for they, only too well, knew what had happened.

The crash had been heard for some distance, and, in a very short time men in their white coats and nurses in their spotless white uniforms were hurriedly on the scene. Fortunately, one man, with the knowledge and experience required, must have been on the spot quite near the scene of the accident, for in a snowy-white coat he instantly appeared, and commenced the work of removing debris. This was quickly done, and another pint was brought. One of the bed patients had dropped his dinner pint with a crash on the floor of the sick ward.

R. Z. H.

Warminster Entertains the Boys

FOR once at least St. Swithin proved a fake, when, on July 15th, after a prolonged period of cold and wet weather, twenty-one St. Dunstaners of the West Country turned up at Miss Oliphant's camp on the Recreation Grounds of Warminster. It was a dismal outlook. Despite the fact that the Salisbury British Legion Band came to entertain the Camp and welcome us, the sympathetic remarks of camp visitors as to our chances for camp weather was a trifle discouraging. Fate, however, was kind. The rain held off while the band played and we were treated to the music of the rain drops on the canvas all night after the artificial music had departed. "A finishing up storm," said I, and it sure was. Sunday's Church Parade, led by Brig.-Gen. Harding-Newman, headed by the Town Band, and each St. Dunstaner escorted by a member of the Warminster British Legion, took place in fine weather that lasted until the end of camp.

We kicked off on Saturday with a garden party, sports and a jolly little vaudeville entertainment after tea at Hinton Charterhouse, near Bath, where we met another party of Bristolians and others who enjoy the garden party as an annual event. An interesting tour of the famous Roman Baths at Bath, where one could drink hot mineral water without a livener, was followed by a glorious picnic lunch in the sunken gardens adjoining. Monday was a "Three-bagger" day, for from Bath we were taken on to Somerdale, for a tour of Fry's Chocolate factory. Here we saw the making of chocolate from the roasting beans on the top floor to the free gift of the finished article on the ground floor. A truly wonderful experience. After a tea at the factory we were driven home to camp, and after early supper we were entertained by the British Legion at their Club. It was rather a wet evening, but only inside the Branch Headquarters where throats were dampened to keep the choruses going. Blakeley and Burley of our camp, kept the flag flying for St. D's, the first rendering two new "Sam Small" and "Albert" monologues and the latter giving some good songs that were well received.

Tuesday was a "Double-decker" day though a few of us managed to get in a

visit to Miss Oliphant's home and lovely gardens, before we went on to "The Grange" the home of Commander and Mrs. Regnart, Miss Oliphant's right-hand supporters in the organization of the camp. Here we enjoyed sports, dancing on the lawn, a strawberry and cream tea and some excellent music given by the Rural School of Music. This garden-party was organized by the Women's Institute of Bishopstrow and the ladies thoroughly entertained us. Here St. Dunstan's flag was rather badly stung in the Spelling Bee, but it was hoisted high in the evening, when the Christchurch Juniors' Social Society gave us a rousing dance in the Parish Room.

On Wednesday, after a lazy day, we were all ready for the well-organized sports in the evening at which the local police superintendent, sergeant and a constable lent willing hands. Burley again starred with throwing the weight and winning the walking race, and Blakeley starred by winning the three-legged race, and there was a mighty tug-of-war that lasted over two minutes. The winners now wear an old school tie. A wonderful camp fire followed, the wood for which was provided by the Marquis of Bath, whose estate adjoins Warminster. Hundreds of people had come for the sports and camp fire, and the singing was led by the students of St. Boniface Theological College. A night we will all remember.

Bright and early on Thursday morning, the fleet of cars arrived to take us all for the last organized excursion—Salisbury and the famous Cathedral. Here we were met by the Reverend Dean—a very human and humorous Dean, who first set us all at ease with a self-deprecatory picture of himself, which in reality photographed a very genial gentleman, determined to make us actually "see" his cathedral.

A comprehensive tour was followed by another glorious picnic lunch in the sunshine on the Precentor's lawn in the Close. The party then broke up, some to visit the museum and others to take advantage of the glorious day for boating on the beautiful Avon. Accompanied by Miss Marshman, a tireless and enthusiastic camp helper, the Rev. Wake, our camp padre, and the imperturbable Jim Sherratt, our canteen sergeant, etc., etc., etc. (known as

"night-sister by night, and bar-tender by day"), four boats pulled away upstream to congregate and rest at an island for a smoke and gay conversation, then drifted lazily back down the fast flowing river to the landing stage. A cup of tea, a spot of shopping for souvenirs, and "Home James and don't spare the petrol" for high tea at six and a concert given by the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, at 8 p.m. Fifty-three in Salisbury, and five-fifty-five back in camp. Hitting the high spots and typical of the week's rapid whirl. The R.A.O.B. concert was a huge success. Once again Burley and Blakeley starred with monologue and song, and Alexander capped the bill with a splendid rendering of a song and encore, and Tricky Hill wound up with a volunteer request.

Friday had been left as an open day for shopping, packing, etc. the round of entertainment to be finished off with a dance at the Scout Hut, given by the Women's Branch of the British Legion. Fate, but the proprietors of "The Bell" Hotel decreed otherwise. An invitation to tea and a concert was heartily accepted and as heartily enjoyed. That final dance was a huge success. Each man, wearing a glorious rose, the gift of Mrs. Regnart, was swiftly claimed and welcomed, and whirled on to the floor. It was a merry party in the camp for that final farewell to the good folk of Warminster.

Miss Oliphant and her helpers must have worked like Trojans to organize such a week, and the camp spoke volumes for the spirit of Warminster. Interwoven with the organized entertainment, there were swift private trips enjoyed by individuals with friends, and Miss Channer brought horses into camp for the pleasure of the now "Fireside Lancers" who once adorned cavalry or other mounted units.

Saturday morning saw no joyful faces at the thought of being "Homeward Bound", and for the first time for eight days the fleet of cars were not welcomed. All good things have their end, and the party for the Far West of Devon and Cornwall went cheering away—the Warminster Camp, a memory that will stimulate and cheer us for many long years.

It would take many pages to enumerate all Miss Oliphant's splendid helpers and to write the complete history of that wonderful week. Let us hope it will be

repeated, although it can never be either equalled or surpassed.

A. J. RADFORD

St. Dunstaner in Rescue Attempt

A. E. CLEWLOW, of Stoke-on-Trent, began his holiday at Mablethorpe, Lincs, with a nerve-racking experience.

On the second day he went for his first swim. It was high tide, and swimming, of course, within sound from the beach, he went out about two hundred yards, thinking that he was the only bather.

Just as he was turning to come in, he heard a faint cry for help, and five yards in front of him, he made out a man and a woman. The woman called out, "Help him, he can't swim." She herself was exhausted. Clewlow swam to the man and in spite of his struggles, for ten minutes managed to keep his head above water. Then he tried to swim with him, but after a few yards he was forced to call for help. By this time, however, three men were swimming out with a life-buoy and Clewlow and the man were brought to safety.

Clewlow who was decidedly shaken by his experience, tells us that the couple had been warned by a boatman that they were on high ground, but they ignored him and when they turned to come in, there was two hundred yards of deep water between themselves and the beach.

Our St. Dunstaner received many congratulations upon his bravery from the crowd who had seen the rescue.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

A MEETING of bridge enthusiasts was 21st held at Headquarters on June to consider forming a Bridge League. Mr. T. E. Swain took the chair. Partners were chosen by lottery, and the partners will play together throughout the League matches to be completed by December 1st.

The Club members and their partners in the League are as follows:—

1 Waite	4 Rhodes	7 Craigie
Slaughter	Collins	Taylor
2 Gover	5 Crook	8 Toft
Thompson	Nuyens	Coles
3 Downs	6 Brown	9 Winter
Graves	Hughes	Roden

A committee was formed consisting of T. Roden, E. Toft, H. Gover (Sec.).

The committee will be pleased to give any information concerning the Club.
H.G.

St. Dunstaner's Escape

J. T. Rouse, of Brighton, had a lucky escape from drowning last month, thanks to the presence of mind of a thirteen-year-old London boy, Lionel Mudd, of Blackheath.

With the boy, Rouse had hired a boat—a small rudderless skiff—but after they had been out only a few minutes, they were caught in a wash which upset the boat. They were flung into the water, but the boy, who had taught Rouse to swim a little in the previous fortnight, shouted to him to swim for it, giving him directions, until they were picked up by a yacht. Rouse, who was in shorts, had left his other clothes in the boat, and these, with his money, were lost. After he and the boy were picked up, boatmen got together clothes for them so that they could get home.

News from South Africa

A most interesting article appeared in the May number of the *Springbok*, the organ of the British Empire Service League (South Africa), written by E. Denny, of Pretoria.

It will be remembered that Denny came over to this country a short while ago for a period of training, and his article in the *Springbok* is an account of his experiences at St. Dunstan's.

A recent letter from Denny says, "Mrs. Chadwick Bates tells me that Van Blerck of Cape Town has been seriously ill but is now on the road to recovery. The writer has to-day reached the convalescent stage after a three weeks' spell in bed with influenza and bronchitis, and Mrs. Denny has been suffering from the same complaint. August, in South Africa, has been a very treacherous month."

Death of Mr. W. Osborne

St. Dunstan's mat-makers will hear with deep regret of the death of Mr. W. Osborne, Chief Instructor of the Mat Department for many years until his retirement, owing to ill-health, in July, 1936.

Mr. Osborne died on June 23rd. Two members of the Mat Department were among those who attended the funeral at Kingsbury Cemetery four days later, and a wreath from the Mat Shop and another from St. Dunstan's, Raglan Street, were among the many flowers.

Armistice Dance

THE Armistice Dance will be held on Tuesday, November 8th, from 7.30 to 11.30 p.m., at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W.1. St. Dunstaners wishing to attend should apply to Mr. Ottaway at Headquarters, for tickets. (One escort for each man).

A number of men have asked whether it will be possible for their elder children to attend. After careful consideration of the amount of accommodation available, it has been decided that allocation of 50 tickets can be made for the children of St. Dunstan's men over the age of 16 years. These tickets will be allotted in order of application, one to each man. In the event of more than fifty applications being received, a note will be made of the names of the unsuccessful applicants, and these will be given the first opportunity of tickets at the next dance.

Wanted—A Film Scenario

THE following competition is open to all St. Dunstaners who reside in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and also to all members of the staff of St. Dunstan's.

FIVE POUNDS—Two Prizes of £5, one for St. Dunstaners and one for Staff, will be given for the best Scenarios for a four-minute film, to be used in connection with St. Dunstan's propaganda. The prizes will be given whether the scenarios are adopted in their entirety, partially or not at all.

Should the quality of the suggestions sent in warrant it, two consolation prizes of ONE GUINEA each may also be awarded.

The judges in connection with the competition will be Mr. T. Evelyn Swain, the Appeals Organizer, and the Editor of the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW, in consultation with film experts, and their decision will be final.

The closing date is Thursday, October 20th, 1938, and scenarios, typed on one side of the paper only, should be sent to the Publicity Secretary, St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1., marked "FILM."

Be brief and to the point. You will lose marks if your scenario runs more than four minutes.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Annual Regatta, 1938.

THE Annual Regatta was held at Putney on Wednesday, July 20th, under ideal weather conditions and before a good company of supporters. Captain Sir Ian Fraser, Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Carpendale, who has recently been elected a member of St. Dunstan's Council, Colonel Eric Ball, Senior Member of the Council, and Mr. Robert B. Irwin, who is Executive Director of the American Foundation for the Blind, New York, and Mrs. Irwin, were among the distinguished visitors who watched the races from the towpath. Lady Fraser was also present and acted as cox in a number of races.

In the Inter-Club competitions, London was placed first with 12 points, the combined Manchester and Birmingham teams second with 8 points, and Brighton third with 4 points.

The President's Cup was won this year by W. Robinson's crew—W. T. Scott, S. Webster, J. McFarlane—who really gave the visiting Old Blues Four a grand race, the margin at the post being only half a length. There was a titanic struggle for second and third place, which resulted in a tie.

Fortunately, Mr. G. O. Nickalls was able to be with us once again, we are pleased to say fully recovered from his indisposition of last year.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson was unfortunately unable to attend but very kindly sent along four small cups for the winning President's Cup crew.

Once again we are indebted to the Vesta and Thames Rowing Clubs for the dressing room facilities and the afternoon's tea arrangements, which were splendid, and to the coxswains, the officials and all who helped in any way to give us such a grand afternoon.

Rowing Dinner

THE Regatta Dinner was well attended and took place, as before, at the Connaught Rooms.

Sir Ian Fraser gave a very hearty welcome to all present, especially to Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, of New York.

Sir Neville Pearson, in his usual extremely amusing speech, conveyed the thanks of St. Dunstan's to all those who had worked so hard in making the Regatta a success. His humour was thoroughly appreciated by all present.

In a speech in which he paid tribute to the remarkable manner in which the St. Dunstan's competitors still put up such a wonderful show, Mr. G. O. Nickalls returned thanks for the visitors.

There was a special vote of thanks for Miss Morris, who was acclaimed with cheers for her continued good work over a difficult period caused through the loss of that great sportsman, Billy Tovell.

Sports Meeting

THE annual Sports Meeting to discuss the winter programme (sports, walks, socials, etc.) will take place in the Lounge at Headquarters on Tuesday, October 4th, at 7 p.m.

Regatta Results

Event	First	Second	Third	
Inter-Club Double	LONDON	BIRM. and MAN.	BRIGHTON	
Sculls	J. McFarlane	T. ap-Rhys	G. Fallowfield	$\frac{1}{2}$ L.
	S. Webster	J. Coupland	T. Ashe	
Inter-Club Pair Oars	LONDON	BIRM. and MAN.	BRIGHTON	
	W. Scott	J. Gimber	R. Williams	$1\frac{1}{2}$ L.
	W. Robinson	J. Dennick,	T. Rouse	
Single Sculls (Class A)	G. Fallowfield	T. Rouse	J. Treby	1 L.
Single Sculls (Class B)	J. Dennick	W. Lacey	T. Ashe	$\frac{1}{4}$ L.
Single Sculls Veterans, (Class A)	J. Triggs	J. Mellor	F. Collyer	2 L.
Single Sculls Veterans, (Class B)	A. Craigie	W. Shakespear	W. Lacey	4 L.
One Armed Pairs	N. Downs	R. Young	H. Tomkinson	
	J. Jerome	T. Stratfull	A. Croke	$\frac{1}{2}$ L.
Pair Oars	A. Craigie	W. Scott	P. Nuyens	
	H. Glendennan	W. Robinson	E. Carpenter	$\frac{1}{4}$ L.
Double Sculls	J. Treby	R. Williams	J. Dennick	
	C. Peach	J. Gimber	F. Rhodes	1 L.
	(Old Blues)			
Open Fours	W. Scott	F. Rhodes	R. Edwards	
	S. Webster	H. Glendennan	W. Birchall	
	J. McFarlane	H. Kerr	F. Winter	
	W. Robinson	P. Nuyens	J. Gimber	
	(Miss Woolrych)	(Miss Jamison)	(Miss Stein)	$\frac{1}{2}$ L.
			3rd Tie	

“In Memory”

PRIVATE AMOS CAMPBELL
(*Lancashire Fusiliers*)

WE have to record with deep regret the death of A. Campbell, of Blackburn.

Although discharged from the Army as a result of loss of sight in 1917, it was not until 1919 that Campbell came under St. Dunstan's care.

Trained as a mat maker and netter he carried on with the first occupation for some time, being a very industrious and painstaking worker. His health, however, began to deteriorate several years ago and for a long time he was not able to do the lightest work. He suffered very greatly for a long period before his death, which took place at his home on July 23rd.

The funeral took place at New Row Methodist Cemetery, Campbell's four sons acting as bearers. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades, and we extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Campbell and the large family who mourn his loss.

PRIVATE THOMAS COCKBURN
(*10th Sherwood Foresters*)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of T. Cockburn, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Enlisting early in 1916, Cockburn was wounded at Thiepval and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in November, 1918, just after the Armistice. Trained as a boot repairer and mat maker, he returned to his home town in the North and carried on for some time, but for a considerable period, on account of ill-health, he had not been able to attend to other than perhaps just a little home repairs.

His death, which took place on July 11th, was however, unexpected, and we send to his widow and children our deepest sympathy in their great loss. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades from St. Dunstan's was sent from London. Mr. Dunwoodie, a St. Dunstaner living in the neighbourhood, and his wife, attended the funeral.

GEORGE ELSTON HOOPER
(*New Zealand Forces*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death on March 25th last of G. E. Hooper, of Wellington, New Zealand, a St. Dunstaner who only came under our care two years ago.

Our deepest sympathy is offered to his widow in her loss.

CORPORAL FRANCIS GALLAGHER
(*Royal Munster Fusiliers*)

WITH deepest regret we have to record the death of another St. Dunstan's man—F. Gallagher of Strabane, who saw service in the South African war and the Indian Frontier Campaign. Although wounded at the Dardanelles in 1916, Gallagher did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1921.

On account of his own and his wife's health, it was not possible for him to take up serious training, but he completed his course in typewriting, netting and wool rugs. Right up to the beginning of this year, his netting gave him a hobby and interest.

He was ill for some months and it was found necessary for him to enter hospital, where he died on July 23rd.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, and Mr. Macaulay was able to be present at the funeral. There was also a big muster of ex-service men to pay their respects to this old soldier. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Gallagher and her two children.

PRIVATE ALBERT FINCH KITE
(*Labour Corps, A.S.C.*)

WE record with deep regret the death of A. F. Kite, of London, W.C.

This St. Dunstaner's sight failed while on service in France and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1918 for training in boot-repairing. He spent a few years at this occupation, but eventually gave it up. For some little time past Kite's health had not been too good, and, during his last visit to Brighton, he had to be admitted to hospital. It soon became evident that he was very seriously ill, and his death on June 27th was not unexpected. The funeral took place a few days later at the Brighton Cemetery, the service having been held prior to this at St. George's Church, when fifty of his St. Dunstan's friends from the Annexe were present. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. Kite leaves no relations.

Births

ASHMORE.—To the wife of J. Ashmore, of Loughborough, on July 18th, a son.

COLE.—To the wife of O. Cole, of West Apple-dore, on August 10th, a daughter.

HOMAN.—To the wife of T. Homan, of Cork, on August 24th, a son, Thomas.

MATTHEWS.—To the wife of G. Matthews, of Bilston, on July 12th, a son.

Death

BENSON.—We extend our deepest sympathy this month to Mr. and Mrs. Benson, of Borough-bridge, whose daughter passed away suddenly on July 29th.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 245.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

"A State of Emergency"

IT may interest St. Dunstaners to know what we tried to do during the recent International Crisis. The story really begins over eighteen months ago, when some of us began to think that clouds were gathering which might prove threatening. From that time onwards we began to make plans which were gradually worked out. This early thought and planning was of the greatest value when the emergency suddenly arrived because instead of approaching the subject entirely afresh and unprepared, we have many of us had it in mind and had a background of knowledge and thought to work on. We also had done much preliminary work that could not have been improvised.

You can look at the problem like this, as we had to. There are nearly two thousand blinded soldiers and their families in the United Kingdom. It is our duty to give them assurance and if any of them suffer from air-raids we must go to their aid. Even if they are not affected by air-raids they rely upon us for a great many services, and these services must continue so far as possible. Helping men with their professions and handicrafts, the sending out of allowances, children's money, help in times of difficulty, and so on, must all go on.

At first we thought we would try and carry on these duties at the Headquarters in Regent's Park, but as time went on it became clear that the Government would encourage, and might order, services that were not absolutely necessary for the life of London to be conducted from outside. It would be no good trying to carry out from London services to help two thousand men in different parts of the country if communications with Headquarters became impossible or difficult.

Then there was the problem of new blinded men if there was a new war. The Government would certainly want us to take care of them from an early stage.

It therefore seemed obvious that if war were to break out, a new St. Dunstan's would arise in Brighton, based upon the new Home and utilizing if we still possessed it, the old Home, with any necessary additions.

We therefore planned to stay at Headquarters until we were ordered out or had to get out, and meantime to open a subsidiary office at Brighton, which could deal with urgent matters during the progress of the crisis and would be the nucleus of the new organization if war actually came. When things really began to look bad during the crisis week, we put this plan into operation, and had the worst occurred we should have been ready for it and able to do the best we could for our men all over the country.

London was the most threatened area and in case a number of our men and their families wanted to move, or were compelled to move, we got the whole of the After-Care Visiting staff to search for and inspect lodgings in different parts of the country. This plan worked well, and had it been necessary we could have provided accommodation in the country

for a larger number of families than actually applied to go. Had the blow fallen elsewhere than in London we should have done the same for that district. Incidentally, a number of St. Dunstaners themselves, living in the country, wrote or telephoned to us offering accommodation for some of their comrades. We were very grateful for this.

St. Dunstan's naturally owns a great many records relating to legacies, properties, our men's affairs, account books, and so on, which are absolutely essential for carrying on our work. These were all moved away without a hitch, as soon as it began to look as if trouble was really coming.

All this sounds very simple and it is always easy to look back and plan after the event, but I can assure St. Dunstaners that it was not easy to plan in advance for every possible contingency, nor was it easy to carry out the plans you had made when the crisis was rushing on you at increasing pace and everything you wanted to do became more difficult each day. There were times, for example, when an essential long distance telephone call out of London had to be booked many hours ahead.

The highest praise is due to the staff, many of whom stayed on duty far into the night, and particularly to Mr. Askew, upon whom fell the main burden of carrying out the plans that had been decided on as well as taking the fullest share in shaping the plans themselves.

If the threat of war should arise again, the plans of Government and City, Town and County Councils will be far more advanced and detailed, and it may not be necessary for St. Dunstan's to have special plans of its own for moving families out of danger zones such as London and other large centres. But we shall study this whole question in the light of the experience we have gained, and St. Dunstaners can rest assured that we would always be ready to do whatever we could in any emergency.

I said in one of my letters at the time—"We must prepare for the worst but hope for the best." We shall still go on preparing, but the state of Europe is undoubtedly better than it was, and we have more justification now for hoping for the best.

Perhaps the most pleasing feature of that otherwise unpleasant week was the spirit of St. Dunstan's men. They went on with their jobs, many of them travelling at great inconvenience, and from all quarters I received letters telling me that they intended to stick to their homes with their friends and relations and carry on with their jobs. When an old soldier, sailor or airman takes up this attitude he sets a good example to all around him, encourages them and steadies their nerves, and thereby renders a real service to the community. Bravo, St. Dunstaners! You did jolly well as you always do! IAN FRASER.

Braille Correspondents Wanted

We have been asked whether there are any St. Dunstaners who would care to correspond in Braille with blind people at the Ontario School for the Blind, Canada, who are very anxious to get in touch with Braille writers in England.

If any St. Dunstaner would care to do so, will he write in the first place to Miss Mildred Philpott, Ontario School for the Blind, Brantford, Canada.

"I Was There"

IT was 1893. I was sixteen years old. I belonged to the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment. Three hundred of us volunteered to train as mounted infantry for Jameson's Raid against the Boers. I was there. J. D. HIGGINS, Brighton.

☆ ☆ ☆

I was present at the Battle of Omdurman and the fall of Khartoum with the 1st Grenadier Guards. J. SHEEHY, Dover.

Prizewinners

L. Hutchinson, of Barnby Moor, won first prize and a Cup with one of his Bedlingtons at a show at Beverley recently.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. R. Brown, of Nuneaton, won a first prize of £2 for a dog basket exhibited at a Disabled Ex-Servicemen's Exhibition held in Birmingham on September 26th.

☆ ☆ ☆

For the second year in succession J. Hughes, of Sanderstead, has won first prize for his roses at the Selsdon Flower Show.

☆ ☆ ☆

From *Reveille* we learn that G. Watson, of Melbourne, Australia, won the euchre tournament conducted by Caulfield Returned Soldiers Club without losing a game. Our St. Dunstaner is one of the best bridge players in the club.

Farewell to West House

From the Press of Brighton, on August 27th :

With memories of many happy years spent within its walls, the last remaining St. Dunstaner left West House, Brighton, leaving behind him empty corridors which for over twenty years have echoed with the voices of the men blinded in the War.

During those twenty years, West House, presented to St. Dunstan's through the munificence of the Federation of Grocers' Associations, has served as a seaside home for the men who gave their sight for their country.

Many of the men departed during the week, but yesterday morning saw fifty ex-Service men still enjoying their last hours in West House. Throughout the day there was the hustle and bustle of departure as, accompanied by relatives or members of the staff, they left for their homes in various parts of the country.

The Mayor of Brighton (Alderman Herbert Hone) was there to say good-bye when the men walked out of the portals of their old home for the last time.

For six weeks the St. Dunstaners will remain in their own homes, and in October they will return to Brighton, not to West House, but to the magnificent new home on the cliffs at Ovingdean, with its rounded corners and every comfort, which, for years to come, will be another home from home for war-blinded men.

On Leaving the Old Brighton Home

WELL, as the sister laughingly said, returning the cork to the half-emptied iodine bottle, it's all over, bar shouting. The old home is nah-poo.

No more jesting remarks of one over the eight, as we warily mount, counting those nine steps on returning, even though we may have had just a glass of milk and a bath bun. And no more waiting for a shave. In the new home there may be an electric robot of the nappy-wallah who will shave us before we are awake, but as Paddy remarked when Jock said he had dropped a threepenny piece on the floor of the lounge, "That remains to be seen." Anyhow, a deep depression was centred over the old Home during those last few days there, and although, thanks a lot,

the bailiffs were not taking possession, who could not help feel a lump as, after that final spot dance of the evening, we joined hands and sang lustily, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot," whilst from a small group in a distant corner came the chorus of, "Good-bye-ee." And on the morning of departure, who could descend those nine steps without a pang of parting from the happy Home? This passed off as midst much waving and cheering, the charas moved off, and, turning right, went slowly past the Mason's, where, combined with head bending backward exercises, comradeship had been cemented with stories of the days and nights round Hell-fire Corner, Sanctuary Wood, and Mons.

On turning right, the charas moved along the front on their way to the station. Who would forget the rousing cheering and waving from that cheery lion-hearted band, our sisters, as they ran down Portland Place to give us a final cheer as we passed by the bottom?

Well, that's that, and now we await a trip to the new Home, still hoping for cheery chirping from the canary and the linnet, encouraged and fed by the cut chaff of a Sick Ward dispenser and the old affectionate (?) greetings of the boys.

Positive as I am that the old spirit of comradeship will be the same in our new Home, we must be careful not to get too highbrow, and ask for a footman as well as a valet, and accommodation to keep our racehorses.

BOB HURRELL.

The Plaintive Trainee

or

THOUGHTS ON READING A POEM
BY MILTON

When I consider how my time is spent,
E'en half my days, in this dark world and wide,
In slow and weary chase of dots which hide
In seeming chaos, till my finger bent

Discern some kind of order, and present
A true account, lest my instructress chide,—
What boots this painful fumbling, speed
denied?

I fondly ask : But Patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon replies: Follow the lead
Others have given in this anxious quest
For skill to pass the reading test. Their state
Seemed hopeless ; now their practised finger
speed

And post through page and chapter without rest:
You, too, shall drive at Jehu's furious rate.

L. P. SAXTON.

St. Dunstaners in Germany

ST. DUNSTANERS will remember the visit to this country some time ago of a party of German war-blinded men, and the invitation cordially extended to British war-blinded men to pay a return visit to Germany. This invitation was just as cordially accepted, and on Saturday, July 23rd, W. Nash, of Hastings; A. C. Evans, of Newport, Mon., and D. Maclean, of Brimpton, near Reading, said good-bye to Sir Ian Fraser and Headquarters staff and set off from Regent's Park upon what was to be to them a memorable holiday. Mrs. Nash, Mr. C. Hanna and Mr. W. A. Ashby went with them as escorts.

The visit was a wonderful experience, and our men have come back from Germany with the happiest memories. Let Maclean and Evans speak for themselves as to the warmth of the welcome afforded to them by the German people, and in particular, by German ex-servicemen. Maclean's remarks, written as far back as August, are particularly interesting in the light of recent happenings.

He writes :

"I have just returned from a memorable visit to Germany. I say 'memorable' because my experience has completely changed my previous views of Herr Hitler and what I and many others believed was his general policy.

"What we did discover was that there is no doubt as to the sincerity of the German people to be friends with England, and they are no less sincere in their desire for true peace, but you must go to Germany to prove that.

"We travelled from Aachen in the south to Swinemunde on the Baltic coast, and thus travelled hundreds of miles through extensively cultivated and fertile lands, woodlands and forest, and nowhere did we discover where the utility of the beauty of the landscape had been hindered or destroyed by careless or deliberate action, a glaring contrast to what we too often see in our own country.

"After a short stay of some thirty hours at Berlin, we finally reached our destination, and for four weeks we freely mingled with ex-officers, soldiers, sailors and civilians, sincerely endeavouring to understand and appreciate their attitude of mind, firstly regarding our own country and their general view on present events. From my first contact to the last, one impression grew steadily stronger and stronger, so much so, that no words I write are written with deeper conviction than these, that the German people earnestly desire the goodwill and friendship of the British people.

"It would be impossible to exaggerate the great kindness shown to our party, genuine pleasure was shown in our presence among them. Day after day it was manifested; a casual meeting, a conversation on a journey, during a

purchase, or when drinking a cup of coffee in a café, the same welcome met us.

"The Government's treatment of the ex-service men is worthy of praise. Everywhere their blind travel free and their escorts at a reduced rate. The fine 'Herr Hitler' houses are another striking example of their generous consideration for those maimed in the war. Wages are 50 per cent above pre-war, and holidays with pay are general."

Evans tells us more about the daily life of the German war-blinded. He says :

"During our visit to the German Blinded Soldiers' Homes we had an opportunity of meeting a few of the 3,500 who were blinded through war service. We only visited two of the five Homes used by the German comrades. The first we visited was at Berlin and is known as the Headquarters. It is a lovely house situated not far from the centre of Berlin, standing in its own grounds. This house was presented to the blinded soldiers by Herr Hitler, who himself was blind for two months during the war from gas. This home takes his name. It was from this home that we made our broadcast. The terrace overlooking the grounds attached to this building is a store for goods sent in by men from different parts of the country. There is also a large library here from which books are supplied to all who require them.

"We spent our first night and the last three nights here and were entertained well. There were no comrades living at this Home other than special visitors. I noticed that our Chairman, Sir Ian Fraser, has been there: his name is in the visitors' book.

"When we left Berlin we made for Swinemunde which is on the Baltic. It is a seaside resort and has a stretch of seven miles of sands. It is an ideal beach for bathing. The Home here is situated close to the sea rather like our old annexe at Portland Place for distance. The Home comprises two large houses; the one is kept on all the year round, but during the winter is only occupied by Sister Irmgard, who is the matron. The other house is closed down in September. These two houses during the summer accommodate about 150 comrades, their wives and children. The bedrooms are different sizes according to the size of one's family; all have single beds.

"At 7.30 a.m. a bell was rung to wake us up. Half an hour was then allowed for us to wash and dress. Another bell sounded at 8 a.m. for breakfast. This was a light meal—rolls and coffee, etc.—after which we would go down to the beach for a swim. The beach was ideal, as it sloped down to the sea gradually and the sand was fine, like Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

"As I said in the first place there were two houses—House Favourite and House Emden. House Favourite was where we slept and House Emden was where we had lunch.

"After lunch we would go back to our respective houses and do some writing, whilst the comrades would sleep until the three o'clock bell rang, which again gave half an hour to wash before coffee or tea. Supper was at House Emden at 6.45 p.m., after which we went to hear the band, to a concert, or on the pier—no, not beer! We had a pass given us so we could go free. Some evenings the comrades would stay in and

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the Editor of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

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*Please send me the St. Dunstan's Review for { one year } for
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Address

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have a sing-song and, by-the-by, one could get a drink of lemonade or bottled beer at the Home—I think it was sold between 8 and 10 p.m., and if you had not had enough by then, you could get it outside up to one in the morning.

"One day, whilst I was in Nash's room, one of the comrades came in and brought with him a large map of Germany. He opened it out on the bed and asked Mrs. Nash to name any town marked on the map and he would point it out. This he did by measuring with his fingers, his measurements being very accurate.

"I think I stated in the beginning that there were five Homes for the 3,500 blinded men in Germany. These Homes are in different parts of Germany, and three are run by the State and the other two are by voluntary contributions.

"Wireless is not so popular in Germany owing to the fact that it costs two marks a month for a licence. There is a reduced rate on telephones used by the blinded soldiers.

"One point of interest—I did not see any sports at Swinemunde or Berlin, due, no doubt, to the fact that the comrades have their wives and children with them and have no time for organized sports."

St. Dunstaners at a Film

A number of St. Dunstaners in London recently saw the film, "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," by special invitation.

Mr. Val Gielgud, Drama Director of the B.B.C., was doubtful about the possibilities of the play as a broadcast and decided that an audience of blinded men should be the judges.

Our men thoroughly enjoyed the show and their appreciative comments left little doubt that "Mr. Deeds" would appeal to the hearing, as well as to the sight.

Comforting

THIS was an entry in the *Evening Standard* Crisis Story competition:

A woman in a queue saw a friend leaving with her mask under her arm. "Oh! you have got yours," she said.

"Yes," replied the other, "I have, but I live in Albany Street, near the Zoo, so what good will this be if the lions get loose?"

A man in the queue overheard. "Don't worry" he said, "they are going to blindfold the lions so that they won't know where Albany Street is."

Births

LAKE.—To the wife of E. Lake, of Beverley, on September 30th, a son.

ROSS.—To the wife of P. Ross, of Petersfield, on October 1st, a daughter.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives, who have recently celebrated their silver wedding anniversaries: Mr. and Mrs. W. Last, of Crynant, September 3rd; Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Anker, of Ealing, September 10th; Mr. and Mrs. D. Livingstone, of Mauchline, Ayrshire, September 26th; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Berry, of Belfast, October 2nd; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Burtenshaw, of Walthamstow, October 4th; and to Mr. and Mrs. S. Smith, of Blackpool, October 12th.

Competition

BELOW are twelve sports and pastimes popular with St. Dunstaners. You are invited to place them in their order of popularity, to be decided by the votes of competitors.

In the first column, write the order in which you think they will be placed. For instance, if you think that gardening will be voted the most popular pastime, place a figure 1 against Gardening and so on.

In the second column, place a cross against your own particular recreation—against several if you have more than one.

A prize of two guineas will be awarded to the sender of the list which compares exactly with the list compiled by the votes of competitors. If no correct solution is received, the prize will go to the sender of the nearest list.

Entries must be received not later than Friday, November 4th, and envelopes must be marked "Sports and Pastimes". The Editor's decision will be final.

	Order of		Personal
	Popularity	Choice	
CHESS
CARDS
DOMINOES
DARTS
WALKING (exercise, not racing)
ROWING
SWIMMING
GOLF
GARDENING
READING BRAILLE
FISHING
CYCLING

Little Gaddesden Camp

PERHAPS, though late in the day, a word about Camp would be appreciated by all who spent such a grand week under canvas. The Camp site this year was at Little Gaddesden House, where Miss Bridget Talbot once again extended to all her usual hearty welcome. Mrs. Spurway was indefatigable in her capacity as Camp Quartermaster, and was responsible for the food arrangements, which were excellent.

We were pleased to welcome two new camp members in Walsh, of Bolton, and Abbott, of Willesden, and everyone was glad to meet our new Sports Instructor, Jack Dawkins, on the occasion of his first camp with the troops, with whom we understand he spent a most enjoyable time.

Our thanks are due to the Mayor and Mayoress of Hemel Hempstead for the dinner and dance arranged at the Town Hall on the Friday evening of our week. Among the many notable occasions of that memorable week's stay was the invitation to the Walk and Social Evening extended to us by the W.O.'s and staff sergeants of the R.A.F., Halton Camp, to whom we offer our grateful thanks for a most enjoyable time. In conclusion, on behalf of all campers, I should like to express our gratitude to Mr. P. E. Clark, of Berkhamsted, for supplying the equipment boxes and to all camp helpers for such a successful camp. CAMPER.

Death of Dr. Burrell

St. Dunstaners will hear with the deepest regret of the death of Dr. L. S. T. Burrell who has for many years been a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of St. Dunstan's.

Dr. Burrell, who was a chest specialist, gave devoted service to St. Dunstan's men. His great knowledge and work were always at their disposal and his kindness and sympathy will long be remembered by those who came in touch with him.

Another Loss

We have heard with deep regret of the death of Miss Maude Hughes, whom many St. Dunstaners will remember as a V.A.D. at St. Dunstan's during and after the War years.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Sports Meeting

THE Annual Sports Meeting to discuss the winter programme was held at Headquarters on Tuesday, October 4th. Mr. Swain, who presided, extended a warm welcome to the voluntary helpers and St. Dunstan's sportsmen. They were also particularly glad to welcome Sir Ian Fraser, who attended the earlier part of the meeting.

Mr. Swain, who said he looked forward to the coming season with much more equanimity than last year, hoped all would agree that last year was not the least successful of sports years and thanked everybody for their assistance and support.

During the discussion on socials, Mr. Swain announced that it had been decided to hold the Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 20th, and that the two concerts kindly given by Miss Zucker and Miss Lester would take place again this year.

W. Robinson suggested that a domino tournament should be held on certain Tuesdays during the season. After much discussion, it was agreed that a Domino Tournament be held on the same evenings as Whist Drives if sufficient numbers attended to make it possible.

When indoor sports were under discussion, it was agreed that jumping should in future be omitted owing to its danger. Later, however, P. Martin suggested that if a rubber mat was used, the danger would be avoided.

Sir Ian Fraser said St. Dunstan's was very grateful to the voluntary helpers and to the Sports staff for their work. (Applause). He hoped that every member would try and think of another St. Dunstaner who might have been a friend of his in the early days, and ring him up, or write to him or talk to him about the Sports and Socials. He felt sure that if once a man came to two or three meetings he would be attracted by the exercise and entertainment and comradeship of these gatherings and would become a regular member.

The Chairman pointed out that while St. Dunstan's were glad to provide the staff and the expenses of the Club, it did not cost any more if the numbers were

doubled. He would like to see the numbers doubled for this reason, and also because it would add so much to everyone's enjoyment. (Applause.)

J. McFarlane asked if St. Dunstaners who were nervous about walking round the Park alone could be met at Baker Street by an orderly. Sir Ian said he could not promise this unless the numbers justified it, but he would see that the question was published in the REVIEW so that if a reasonable number of men could arrange to be met at the same time he could consider helping them.

F. Rhodes proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Ian and to St. Dunstan's for their interest in the Sports. This was carried unanimously.

Mr. Swain, referring to the subject of Indoor Sports, pointed out that physical training commenced with an exceedingly good attendance last year but that towards the end of the season it dwindled considerably. It was agreed that physical training should be cut out of the programme this winter, it being left to Mr. Dawkins to find something to take its place.

When walks were under discussion, F. Rhodes proposed that the programme should remain the same this season as last year. This was seconded by A. Craigie, who also asked if it would be possible for "B" Section competitors to start five minutes ahead of "A" Section. This was agreed upon, with the exception of the 6-mile walk, when competitors would start on handicap times.

Strolls. H. Gover suggested having a stroll from Headquarters once a fortnight in the direction of Hampstead Heath and thought it might be a good idea to run them in three parties, one fast, one medium and one slow. He would also like to have three special features a season, *i.e.*, a stroll from Maidenhead, Wembley and Inverbrook. Mr. Swain suggested that a start might be made with three organized strolls this season which could be increased next year if it was the general wish. It was decided to put a notice in the REVIEW to find out the general opinion and if a sufficient number were keen a special meeting could be called to discuss details. This was carried on the proposal of G. Brown and seconded by A. Crooke.

F. Rhodes thanked Mr. Swain very much for taking the Chair and hoped they would

have his support and friendship for many years. He also thanked all helpers for being present. This was seconded by W. Lacey.

Mr. Swain warmly thanked F. Rhodes and W. Lacey and expressed his appreciation of the splendid work Miss Morris had done and also congratulated Jack Dawkinson the way he had carried out his first year as Sports Instructor.

Walks

The Walks for the coming season will be held on the dates given below :—

6 mile	November 19th
9 mile	January 28th
12 mile	February 25th
Birmingham.....	March
Wembley	April 22nd

Swimming

The Annual Swimming Gala has been arranged to take place on Friday, October 28th, at 6.30 p.m. at Marylebone Baths.

Events.

One length handicap, A. Section.

One length handicap, B. Section.

Plunge.

Please send your entries to the Sports Office as soon as possible.

Practice nights will be Wednesdays and Fridays of each week at 5.30 p.m.

Children's Gala

The Children's Gala will be held at the Marylebone Baths on Friday, November 4th, at 6.30 p.m. Entries for this should also be sent to the Sports Office as soon as possible.

Surrey Ladies' Gala

AT Kingston Baths once again, in fact for the sixteenth year, the boys "did their stuff" in a one-length race, and after a little "bumping and boring" by Rhodes and Jackson, ended a great race by all finishing within a yard and a half. They received the usual grand reception from all present, and at the end "Jacko" thanked the Surrey Ladies for their cordial invitation on behalf of St. Dunstan's boys, and hoped to be able to see them for many years to come. Thus ended a most enjoyable evening. The final placings were T. W. Collyer, 1st; J. Macfarlane, 2nd; F. Jackson, 3rd; W. Robinson, 4th, and S. Rhodes, 5th.

W. JONES.

“In Memory”

Sapper EDWIN HERBERT DYER
(R.E. Labour Corps)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of E. H. Dyer, of Cardiff.

Dyer served in the Great War and was discharged in 1918 with defective vision. He was trained as a boot-repairer but eventually had to give up this work on account of ill-health, and although he had not been well for some years his death on August 29th was unexpected.

The funeral took place at Cardiff and was attended by his family and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Dyer leaves a widow and three children to mourn his loss, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Headquarters Dance

The date of the first Dance at Headquarters has been fixed for Tuesday, October 25th, when the Committee hope all members who possibly can will attend.

Strolls

Would members of the Sports Club interested in strolling please send their names to the Sports Office as soon as possible, when, if sufficient numbers are received, a special meeting will be arranged to discuss the matter.

Summer Sports

Final placings and points :—

SECTION A		SECTION B	
A. Crooke	89—21=68	W. Lacey	78—7=71
F. Collyer	45	J. Henry	61
W. Bishop	31	W. Birchall	78—21=57
H. McSteele	28—7=21	G. Brown	58—14=44
R. Edwards	11—14=3	F. Winter	10
		S. Webster	6
		B. Ingreby	1

Football

The Arsenal F.C. have renewed the granting of tickets for the following matches up to the end of this year :

v. Leicester City November 19th
v. Stoke City December 17th

St. Dunstaners wishing to attend these matches should apply to the Sports Office for tickets when a ballot will be made if necessary.

Bridge Tournament

The scores in the Bridge Tournament, received up to October 1st, are as follows:

Gover and Thompson	10 points
Waite and Slaughter	9
Taylor and Craigie	8
Winter and Roden	7
Coles and Toft	6
Hughes and Brown	4
Rhodes and Collins	4
Crooke and Nuyens	2
Doores and Graves	2

Ypres Day Commemoration Service

The Committee of the Ypres League have extended a cordial invitation to the men of St. Dunstan's to be present at the Ypres Day Commemoration Service, to be held on the Horse Guards Parade on Sunday, 30th October next, at 11 a.m.

Will those men who desire to attend the service notify Mr. Swain by Tuesday, 25th October next.

Official escorts will be provided.

Rambling

THE Home Counties Ramblers have been good enough to extend to St. Dunstaners the privilege of taking part in the following rambles arranged by their Committee. Any number would be welcomed and only the railway fare would have to be paid.

Sunday	"Egypt"	Dep. Marylebone
Oct. 30th		10.15 a.m. Cheap
		Day Fare 2s. 7d.
Sunday	"Gaddesden-	Dep. Euston
Nov. 20th	land" Special	10.15 a.m. Fare 2s.
	Train	
Sunday	To Knockholt	Dep. Charing X.
Nov. 27th	Cheap Day Fare	10.4 a.m. and
	2s. 6d.	London Bridge,
		10.10 a.m.

Please notify the Sports Office of your intention to attend to enable the organizing secretary to make the necessary arrangements.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be held at the new Home on Wednesday, November 9th, at 5 p.m.

A Reminder

As announced last month, the Armistice Dance will be held on Tuesday, November 8th. Do your best to attend one of the jolliest affairs of the year.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 246.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

NOVEMBER, 1938

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The Brighton Home

THE new Brighton Home, now a going concern, is a great success. This seems to be the unanimous opinion of all concerned.

The first group of men to go for holidays and periods of convalescence arrived during the second week of October, and soon the Home was full, one hundred and twenty beds being occupied.

I have asked the Editor of the REVIEW to include in this month's number a description of the building, and in subsequent months to devote a page to describing some aspect of the Home itself or of life at the Home so that gradually all may get the fullest possible impression of the place and its work.

The Editor is printing on another page a few of the many letters we have received from St. Dunstaners. These give a better idea of how the place has struck our guests than I could.

The credit for the new Home goes to St. Dunstan's, not to individuals. The Council, the Brighton Home Committee, the Headquarters Staff concerned, the architects and builders, have made it a splendid building in a suitable place. Matron and her staff at Brighton and the men who have already been our guests or who will be in the future, will put into it—indeed, have already put into it, the spirit of St. Dunstan's.

I think all of us who have to do with St. Dunstan's may feel very proud of it and may feel confident that in years to come this generation of blinded soldiers will enjoy many healthful and happy times at St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, Brighton.

Early St. Dunstaners should read this

Mrs. Toft, wife of a well-known St. Dunstan's osteopath and masseur, was a V.A.D. Braille teacher at St. Dunstan's during the war years. She was a girl of eighteen, and she wrote some sketches or studies of the men she met and taught. No names, no pack drill, has been Mrs. Toft's motto, but many of us will recognize the types and some the individuals. This book is reviewed elsewhere. I call attention to it because I am quite sure that all early St. Dunstaners and V.A.D.s, and others who knew us in those years, will delight in reading this book. It is published by John Murray. It costs 3s. 6d. at any bookstall, or you could ask for it at your library. It is called *The Spirit of St. Dunstan's*. It will remind you of poignant and happy times.

IAN FRASER.

The Duke of Kent and a St. Dunstaner

J. Paterson, of Thirsk, was in the Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, when the Duke of Kent visited it last month.

The Duke went into Paterson's ward to speak to a seaman who had been on the *Discovery* but on being told that our St. Dunstaner was there, he asked to see him as well. His Royal Highness stayed some time chatting to Paterson.

For Pipe Smokers

The makers of "Hurricane" pipes have generously renewed their offer of a limited number of their pipes to St. Dunstaners at half price.

The pipe is particularly adapted to the needs of blind smokers.

St. Dunstaners who wish to avail themselves of this offer should apply to Messrs. Nutt Product Ltd., 195 Oxford Street, London, W.1, enclosing a postal order for 5s. 3d. and mentioning that they are St. Dunstan's men.

Sports and Pastimes Competition

THE result of the voting in this competition was extremely interesting. Walking easily secured first place, but cards, dominoes, and reading Braille all received the same number of votes and tied for second place. The full result of the voting was as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------|
| 1. Walking | |
| 2. Cards | |
| Dominoes | } (tie) |
| Reading Braille | |
| 5. Gardening | |
| 6. Rowing | |
| 7. Swimming | |
| 8. Cycling | |
| 9. Darts | |
| 10. Chess | } (tie) |
| Fishing | |
| 12. Golf. | |

A. Smith, of West Hartlepool, sent in the coupon which most nearly corresponded with the correct result and the prize of two guineas goes to him. No notice was taken of the order given by competitors of cards, dominoes and reading Braille. As long as they were placed 2, 3 or 4, they were assumed correct.

Another competition on p. 10.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the Final period of four weeks to September 4th, 1938.

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Campbell, J.	... 1,259
2	Knopp, H. A.	... 1,087
3	Brown, M. Watson	... 1,068
4	Carpenter, E. H.	... 1,060
5	Fisher, T. M.	... 1,027
6	Gwyn, A. I.	... 1,014
7	Jackson, G. C.	... 955
8	Holmes, P.	... 932
9	Woodcock, W. J.	... 885
10	Hill, R. E.	... 876
11	Hammett, H. A.	... 815
12	Chaffin, A.	... 796
13	Brown, C. H.	... 794
14	Jarvis, A.	... 793
15	Hamilton, B.	... 771
16	McLaren, D.	... 739
17	Smith, W. Alan	... 734
18	Capper, A. H.	... 731
19	Fisher, T. M.	... 678
20	Powell, G.	... 671
21	Holmes, P.	... 652
22	Roberts, H.	... 645
23	McIntosh, C.	... 631
24	Webb, W.	... 621
25	Capper, A. H.	... 577
26	Hamilton, B.	... 541
27	Smith, W. Alan	... 536
28	Stock, C. H.	... 403
29	McLaren, D.	... 379

Mr. Kessell

St. Dunstaners will be interested to know that Mr. Ernest Kessell, C.B.E., who was returned unopposed for one of the wards at the last election, three years ago, in the Royal Borough of Kingston-on-Thames, was opposed in this election, when he was returned with a majority of 552, the second highest majority in the Borough.

Prizewinners

A. Bristow, of Bexhill, took four first prizes, one second, and two thirds with his canaries at a local show held in October.

☆ ☆ ☆

Won by the family in 1929-30, the son of H. Hurst, of Great Longstone, has again carried off for them the Silver Cup for vegetables and flowers at the local show.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the Editor of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, N.W.1.

*Please send me the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for { one year } for
which I enclose { 7s. 6d. six months }*

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Brighton News

Dedication of the New Chapel

THE RT. REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF CHICHESTER on Tuesday, October 25th, dedicated the Chapel of our new Brighton Home. On October 26th, the *Sussex Daily News* wrote :

War-blinded men formed the choir when the Bishop of Chichester dedicated the Chapel of the new St. Dunstan's Home at Ovingdean yesterday afternoon. A blind organist—Dr. Leonard Marsh—presided at the sweet-toned Compton organ and the Lesson was read from Braille by Captain Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, who lost his sight in the war.

The dedication service opened with the hymn "Our Blest Redeemer." The Rev. R. M. Raper, Vicar of the Chapel Royal, who has recently been appointed Chaplain of St. Dunstan's, conducted the service, and the Rev. George W. Tyson, Superintendent of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit, taking the place of the Rev. Dr. J. Scott Lidgett, who had been invited to attend as a representative of the Free Churches, offered two of the prayers.

After he had read the Lesson, Sir Ian Fraser walked to the Bishop, who sat near the altar, and said: "Right Reverend Father in God, we pray you to dedicate this Chapel."

The Bishop replied: "I am ready to proceed to the Dedication."

His lordship then dedicated the building, the Font, the Altar and the Communion vessels.

Taking as his text the words: "The tabernacle of God is with men," the Bishop spoke of the Chapel as a tent of trust with God—a place where they could meet their Commander-in-Chief and their Father in one. "All of you know," he continued, "the Chapel of the old St. Dunstan's in Brighton, and you loved it. The memories and prayers of that old Chapel are not lost. They come here, they inspire this new tent with their fragrance."

"I am sure we are all very glad to find with us not only Sir Ian Fraser, who is so heroic in the splendid service he gives to all who go to St. Dunstan's, but Lady Pearson, bringing with her the fragrance and memory of the devotion of St. Dunstan's. It is a great link, a great sense of continuity which binds us to the first St. Dunstan's in Regent's Park as well as our own local St. Dunstan's in Brighton."

His lordship spoke of the encouragement and exhilaration given by the building, with its lovely colours and the sunshine coming through the windows.

"Draw the inspiration of your lives—not easy lives I know," he continued, "from the faith which it teaches. The Chapel is yours. It will be a refreshment and an encouragement to you while you are here and the Chaplain, Mr. Raper, will give you his teaching and his friendship. And when you go away from here to your own homes its inspiration will go with you—its sympathy and its healing, its assurance of God's love, its promise of a new Heaven and a new earth and restoration."

Mr. Tyson read a message from Dr. Scott Lidgett regretting that the changed date of the

dedication made it impossible for him to attend.

"With us all," the message went on, "a sanctuary of worship, prayer and meditation is of inestimable value. I think this is especially true in the case of our brothers who are deprived of sight. Thrown back upon themselves it is most important that they should be lifted above themselves into worship and fellowship with God and thereby into fellowship with one another. The chapel of St. Dunstan's will, therefore, be a sacred reminder of this need and an essential instrument of fulfilling it."

Among those present were Lady (Arthur) Pearson, D.B.E., President, and widow of the founder of St. Dunstan's, Captain Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman, and Lady Fraser, Sir Neville Pearson, Bt., Hon. Treasurer, Lieut-Colonel Eric Ball, Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, Miss M. Hamar Greenwood, Major J. Brunel Cohen, Dr. J. S. B. Forbes, Commandant of the new Home, Miss W. Boyd Rochfort, Matron, and Mr. W. G. Askew, Secretary of St. Dunstan's.

A Visit to Miss Rayson

FOUR coaches loaded with a very happy party of Brighton and District After-care men, with their wives, left Steine Street, Brighton, for the house-warming party of their late After-care Visitor, Miss A. K. Rayson, at Plummers Plain, Horsham, Sussex. We were met on arrival by Miss Rayson, Matron, Mrs. Broughton and Miss Jones, our present Visitor, and several other ladies.

The house itself stands in about eight acres of ground. Tea was served on the lawn, after which the wives had a competition between themselves, playing clock golf. Several very nice prizes were given by Miss Rayson. The men had a draw which also included very useful prizes. During the time the competition was going on, a large number made a tour of the house which is very nicely set out. We then made a tour of the kennels, where Miss Rayson had got some beautiful dogs. Just before leaving I was asked to thank our hostess for the very nice time which she had given us, and Matron gave me a horse-shoe to present to Miss Rayson for good luck in her new undertaking, which is breeding dogs for show.

Since our visit to Plummers Plain, there has been a dog show in Brighton, and from the local papers we have read that Miss Rayson took three first prizes and the Kennel Club Challenge Certificate. I think that the horse-shoe must have brought her luck, and I am sure every St. Dunstaner who came in contact with her will wish Miss Rayson still further success and good luck.

R. W. H.

The New Brighton Home

THOSE St. Dunstaners who have already been to the new Brighton Home will by now have passed on to their friends their news and views of this wonderful new building of ours. For most, however, it will probably be some time before they are able to see for themselves exactly what the Home is like. The following general description of the building will, it is hoped, give some idea.

Our Home is a landmark on the Sussex coast. Like an aeroplane resting on a hill, it comes into view as we approach along the coast road, the rounded glass of its cockpit gleaming in the sun.

St. Dunstan's own bus brings us up the drive and along to the main entrance. Those who are on foot will follow the handrail which leads from the road, up to the rubber strip which leads across to the pavement outside the entrance.

The building is of biscuit coloured brick and, in the modern style, has a vast expanse of window space. The window frames are turquoise. Golden-fawn and turquoise is the colour scheme of the whole building.

The lower part of the cockpit, which is of brick, has "St. Dunstan's" in letters 2ft. 6in. high across it. These letters are neon-lit at night. The upper part of the cockpit is rounded and is of glass. Above it flies our standard. At the foot of the building, immediately below the cockpit, is the Chapel. A stone figure of Winged Victory, bearing St. Dunstan's Badge, surmounts the Chapel.

Entrance Hall.

The entrance hall is the basement of the cockpit. As we go in, the hall porter's office and J. Boyd's Appeals Office are to the right. Then come the stairs, winding direct to all floors. Behind the stairs are men's cloakrooms and dressing rooms, including a sports room, with shower, foot-baths, etc. Coming back to the entrance, on the opposite side are J. W. Mahony's Massage Clinic, a ladies' cloak-room, and two lifts—one to take chair cases—which reach all floors. A tobacco kiosk completes the main part of this floor. Being built on a hill, the rear of the building is underground and this has been utilised for the boilers, etc.

Main Floor.

If we go by the stairs, steel studs in the banisters give us our bearings. A row of studs close together indicate the next (Main) Floor. Afterwards, each floor is signalled by one, two, three, four and five studs. On each floor too (not at each flight) at the head of the stairs, there are waist-high swing gates edged with thick rubber tubing. The rule of the stairs is "Keep to the right."

The Main Floor houses all the most important rooms which, as on all floors, lead off from the Hall. There are four sides to the Hall—the stairs side, the lifts side (opposite), the cockpit, and the rear.

On the stairs side are sun terraces and a telephone booth for St. Dunstaners. On the lifts side are more sun terraces from which lead off a model room (with its beautiful scale model of the Home), a visitors' room, and eight talking book rooms. The dispensary is also on this side of the Hall.

In the cockpit are the general offices, with Matron's room on the lifts side. In the rear of the Hall are the Dining Room and the Lounge. A door in the Dining Room leads to the rooms mentioned on the terrace. The Lounge communicates with the Quiet Lounge, typing and Braille rooms which run alongside the other terrace but which cannot be entered that way.

First Floor.

On this floor, on the stairs side is a dormitory, or ward—Dormitory 1. On the lifts side is Dormitory 2. In the cockpit are the Sick Ward and the Sick Lounge. The rear of this, and every other floor with the exception of the Fifth Floor, houses staff.

Second Floor.

The lay-out of this floor is similar to that of the First Floor. Dormitory 3 is on the stairs side; Dormitory 4 on the lifts side. Now we have reached the glass-fronted part of the cockpit, and doors lead out from here to a sun terrace.

Third Floor.

Two more dormitories. In the glass bay stands the master wireless set which operates the earphones and loudspeakers all over the building.

Fourth Floor.

This floor and the Fifth Floor are smaller than the lower ones. A door on the stairs side leads to staff quarters

only. On the lifts side, a door leads along a corridor passing the basket-room, the Roman Catholic Chapel and the rug room. Coming back to the Hall, men's cloak-rooms are on the lifts side towards the rear. A glass bay still forms the cockpit.

Fifth Floor.

Two large winter gardens are in the wings of the Fifth, and last, Floor. Doors on both sides of the Hall lead to them. On the lifts side are men's cloakrooms.

In the rear of this floor are the well-equipped kitchens from which meals are sent down to the Dining Hall, four floors below, by electric lifts.

Throughout the building, there are continuous handrails. Doors leading to dormitories, the Lounge, and the Dining Hall are edged with thick rubber tubing ensuring protection and quiet. Every essential door is plainly marked in raised letters. The building is centrally heated.

St. Dunstaners write—

TO CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER,
DEAR SIR IAN,

My wife and I returned home yesterday from the new home at Ovingdean.

After the first day or two we soon got used to it. It is in a splendid position and I must congratulate you on the marvellous building. It will catch every bit of sun and will put new life into us all.

I was very pleased to meet so many of the men who were with me at St. Dunstan's in 1916 and 1917. I have had a wonderful holiday.

I also wish to show my appreciation of the sisters and orderlies, old and new, who were all kindness itself.

Yours sincerely,
A. W. MORRIS.

Pontypridd.

TO LADY FRASER,
DEAR LADY FRASER,

We, the undersigned telephonists, desire to express our appreciation of the cordial way in which we were received at the new Brighton Home last week-end, and to personally thank you for your untiring efforts to make the time spent there by St. Dunstaners, a pleasant one.

My colleagues and I are very delighted with the way in which the house is arranged for our comfort, and feel sure that when St. Dunstaners have got used to it, they will find that its amenities are many.

In conclusion, we wish to thank Sir Ian, the Matron and the Staff at Brighton for their unceasing labours during the past few weeks for our welfare and future happiness at the Home, and would assure them of our full support and co-operation in their task.

Yours sincerely,
F. CRADDOCK.
J. J. KNIGHT.
R. J. VINE.
H. V. FRAMPTON.

TO CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER,
DEAR SIR IAN,

As you have no doubt heard, I visited the new Home at Brighton this week-end, and thought I would like to give you my impressions which may be put in few words: the place is perfect.

I feel it reflects great credit on those who have planned it so competently. Every smallest detail seems to have been thought of—the stairs are gentle and easy, and so clear are the indications on the balustrades and doors, and so alike are the corridors on each floor, that after only a few hours the place seemed quite familiar to me.

I don't know what system of heating you have, but the temperature was ideal, and the beds most conducive to slumber!

Already the Home seemed to possess the St. Dunstan's atmosphere to which Lady Fraser contributed so much by her presence.

I was slightly apprehensive as to crossing the main road, but I tested this with another totally blind man. We stood at the Belisha beacon, held out our hands in a commanding manner, and both lines of traffic came simultaneously to a stop.

May I congratulate you and all those who have contributed towards the making of such a magnificent place.

Yours sincerely,
E. TOFT.
London, N.W.11.

TO CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER,
DEAR SIR IAN,

I feel I must voice an opinion concerning my holiday at the new Home. I do assure you, in all faithfulness, that it has been one of the happiest times of my life, and I cannot find sufficient words in the dictionary to express one small part of my appreciation.

A first impression upon entering the hall may be of bewilderment at such a spacious apartment, but the lasting impression is the simplicity, but efficiency, of every arrangement connected with the Annexe. As a matter of fact within one hour of entering I was so at home in the ward and dormitory that I felt I must have stayed there on several occasions. Progress, in visualizing the dining-room, lounge and the other rooms on the main floor, was not quite so rapid, but I found that frequent use, and a greater familiarity with these, began to produce that sense of satisfaction which "something attempted, something done" always brings.

There is one department, however, I really must speak about because I believe it is often remarked that if you wish to put a man in a good frame of mind you must "feed the brute." I cannot speak too highly of the kitchen staff and the dining-room arrangements. I never did enjoy my meals so much as I did last week. It was the constant talk of the table—"no complaints."

May I be permitted, also, to pay a humble tribute to the tireless energy displayed, at all times, by Lady Fraser, whose willingness to do whatsoever she could, has been radiated to every member of the staff, and is in turn, transmitted to everyone who enters the Home.

Yours sincerely,
GEO. H. HEeley.
Wakefield.

A Visit to Meccano Works

IT was whilst staying at Hoylake, near Liverpool, that we had the opportunity of visiting the works of Messrs. Meccano Ltd., in Liverpool.

After passing through the offices where two hundred and fifty typists were busy at work, we found ourselves right in the factory. It is difficult to describe the place. The whole factory is worked on the conveyor system; there are conveyors overhead, on the table level, along the floor, and from one story to another, and every department is in touch with each other on a buzzer system, too. There is no hurrying and scurrying or fetching and carrying, but each employee works steadily to the time the materials or parts of toys, etc., are brought along to them on this conveyer system which to us seemed so very different to a factory before the war.

In many cases huge machines were stopped whilst we had the opportunity of feeling as much of them as we could, and their work was explained carefully to us. We had the luck, I might say, of finding a Mr. Edwards, one of the officials, able to talk to the deaf as well as our escorts. In the case of the smaller and less dangerous machines, we were permitted to sit down, the metal or part of a toy being put into our left hand; the girl then guided it so that we played it correctly; then we pulled over a lever and felt the machine do its respective task. In this way, as we went along, we made a complete tinplate railway rail, a toy railway wagon and oil-tank. We saw the patternmakers at work and this was all explained, and later the dies in the machines filled with liquid metal, all kinds of toys and parts of toys, in addition to the Meccano parts, being turned out.

The painting department was a very large and interesting place. We saw at the end of a table-high endless belt—(conveyor)—small models of all kinds placed on in a set order, *i.e.*, a motor-car, a battleship, aeroplane, motor-bus, larger car, piece of toy furniture and so on. Sitting along a table between which the conveyor ran was a long row of girls. Each one painted her respective article in about five seconds as it came to her, and then it went along to another girl who packed her respective article for drying. Then there was the shield painting. This was done on

the same system—each girl had her job. It might be to paint certain parts of a motor-bus—perhaps only the wheels—but no other part was touched, and all was done on the spray method with metallic paint.

We saw the various strips of Meccano placed into frames and hung up and conveyed to the girls who sprayed it and then sent the frames along for drying.

The girls in the painting department only work forty-five minutes of each hour: the remaining fifteen minutes they are off, so that they can breathe fresh air.

We saw in the showrooms and demonstrating rooms girls making the most up-to-date Meccano models for the Christmas bazaars all over the country, and many of the latest Meccano produce that will be released only for the Christmas shopper. We enjoyed, too, a time at the switches working the huge Hornby railway there.

Those who have not been in a factory since they downed their tools to join up during the War would find modern methods amazingly simple and easy: no bustle and rush, yet the work done much more quickly.

G. FALLOWFIELD AND G. J. WHEELER.

From Our Press Cuttings

The Daily Express:

MONTAUBAN (France)—Fifty-year-old blind war veteran Georges Pons dived fully dressed into the Tarn River yesterday and saved his eight-year-old son, who had fallen in where the river is deep and swift.

Guided by his wife's shouts from the bank, Pons reached the child, caught him by the leg, and brought him to safety.—Exchange.

The Christian Science Monitor:

WILMINGTON, Del.,—Blind twenty-four years, John C. Cousineau none the less "saw" his native land this summer, hitch-hiking 8,400 miles cross continent. Home to-day from his trip, he termed the United States "one of the most beautiful places in the world."

Mr. Cousineau said he had 150 different pairs of eyes to help him see the country—the eyes of drivers and passengers in automobiles that gave him "lifts."

It was the third such trip for Mr. Cousineau, who "thumbed" 2,350 miles to Saginaw, Mich., his birth-place, last year, and 1,700 miles to Quebec in 1936. It gives him a three-summer mileage of 12,450 miles.

Quiet, smiling, he came home with a keen, full memory, and a suitcase stocked with postcards and pamphlets.

Statistically, he summed it up as 57 rides going, 34 coming back. Expenses, 71 dollars 11 cents.

The Spirit of St. Dunstan's

THE story of St. Dunstan's has been told many times—by St. Dunstaners themselves and by those who have come to know and admire St. Dunstan's men. Now, for the first time, its story has been told by an ex-V.A.D.—one who came to us as a girl of eighteen to work with us and laugh with us in the dark days of 1915-18. Eventually to marry one of us. The V.A.D. was Miss Violet Duché, and under that name she has just published her book, *The Spirit of St. Dunstan's* (Murray, 3s. 6d.).

In a preface, Sir Ian Fraser writes: "No single factor contributed more to our new view of life than the understanding and sometimes affection of these girls and young women whom we called collectively V.A.D.'s. Quietly they moved amongst us, tending our daily needs, keeping their heads when we were losing ours, acting as lightning conductors for the flashes of anger and despair that from time to time seemed to overwhelm us, calming frayed nerves, teaching us to read and write, bringing us back to normality. This aspect of St. Dunstan's will be remembered by all the blinded officers and men and by the hundreds of V.A.D.'s who so freely gave their services, many of them 'for the duration.'"

Miss Duché's book takes the form of sketches of some of the men she knew at St. Dunstan's—"Heldar," shy and diffident, but an apt Braille pupil, who was reluctant to keep to her promise the girl he was engaged to, until she convinced him that marrying him would be no sacrifice. Of "Jinks," who was blinded on his 22nd birthday and took his blindness bitterly until his mother told him of the plans she had made for his future, that he was to come to St. Dunstan's. Life held a new meaning then.

When His Majesty King George V was visiting St. Dunstan's, "Ginger"—one of the star turns of the Braille room—waited trembling lest he be asked to demonstrate. The moment arrived. "I completely lost my head and for a hideous moment I forgot even the alphabet. Then a strange lucidity took possession of my brain, and to my own astonishment, I began to improvise. The King marvelled, congratulated me warmly, and passed on." There is a brief sketch, too, of "the Belgians."

"Pat" is a St. Dunstaner who talks bitterly of people who take him out, merely, he says, to parade him. He, too, had taken his blindness hardly at first. In a few hours, however, he is his own charming self, meeting old friends and arranging a "spree." He hates popularity. He is, as he laughingly says, "a rough diamond."

There is a sketch of "Jolly," who has had his right arm and four of his left fingers amputated; and of "Billy," who is only seventeen but in constant pain. To him, happily, comes quick release.

The last is "Michael"—tall and handsome; essentially unspoilt. He has had the worst news from Major Ormond, but there is no bitterness or self-pity. He will always be an inspiration to others, by his gallant example; he will have beside him "Sister May" who was glad to give up security and a life of ease for Michael "with nothing to offer but his own sterling self."

"No picture of the early days of St. Dunstan's," writes Miss Duché, "would be complete without mention of the man who was not only its Founder but the embodiment of the spirit he wished to spread. Courageous, cheerful and independent, he inspired in the men a desire to emulate his example. . . . Stirred by the magnetism of his personality, they were endowed with a new dignity; no longer was their affliction a calamity, but an opportunity."

Such is Miss Duché's tribute to the men she knew at St. Dunstan's. "As their example has been such an inspiration to me in my life, my hope is that this little book may also hold a message for those who come across these pages."

A Useful Hint

Mr. N. S. Macauley writes:

I have heard of two cases recently where men have broken their dentures through knocking them out of their hands when brushing them. It has occurred to me that this must be quite a usual thing, and rather expensive by way of repairs.

If they were to half fill the wash basin with water before starting cleaning operations, and keep both hands close to the water while brushing, there would be very little fear of damage occurring. Even fragile lower dentures can be dropped into water from a height and suffer no damage, whereas a very slight knock on a porcelain basin will break them.

Armistice Dance

Tuesday, November 8th, saw yet another Armistice Dance at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street.

A record number of St. Dunstaners attended and there were many happy reunions. St. Dunstan's own band gave their usual splendid programme, and, of course, one of the "high spots" of the evening was the "Lambeth Walk."

Sir Ian Fraser and Lady Fraser were there to welcome the guests. Sir Ian said that they were very pleased to have with them that evening a number of old and new friends. There was Colonel Eric Ball, whom everyone knew as Senior Member of St. Dunstan's Council and Chairman of the Brighton Home Committee, Miss Hamar Greenwood, another member of the Council, and there was their friend, Colonel Bickerton. They also had with them Mr. R. C. Davenport, who, in Sir Ian's words, was to have the "tough job" of taking Col. Bickerton's place when he retired from his office of Ophthalmic Surgeon at St. Dunstan's at the end of the year. Many other old friends were there, too, and Sir Ian said that if he mentioned two alone, it was because they were typical—Sister Pat, who was first Matron at the old House, and "Auntie" Read.

Later in the evening, another member of the Council arrived—Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Carpendale, who had hurried away from another engagement in order that he might be present.

Dancing went on until 11.30.

Reminiscences of a Sports Commentator

CAPTAIN H. B. T. WAKELAM, the well-known B.B.C. sports commentator, has written a book of reminiscences which he calls *Half-Time*. He says that in his first broadcast commentary on the England-Wales match at Twickenham in January, 1927, he had with him in the box a St. Dunstaner. Being nervous, he was advised to talk as if he were just describing the game to him. The idea worked splendidly. He was so desperately keen to keep his neighbour fully informed, that he raced away like a maniac. "Then and there," he says, "I got into the habit (which I still maintain is essential) of being just a fraction of a second ahead of the actual game."

Who was the St. Dunstaner?

Young St. Dunstaners

Audrey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Heeley, of Wakefield, has passed her School Certificate examination at the age of fifteen. She has been awarded a senior scholarship, tenable at Wakefield Technical College, and hopes to take her Civil Service Examination later.

☆ ☆ ☆

Last month we wrote that Alan Cook, of Wood Green, had passed his Matriculation. Now we hear that his friend, Norman Johns, has also passed this examination. These two young St. Dunstaners have swotted for their matric. together. They will go to different schools, however.

☆ ☆ ☆

Vera, daughter of J. Bannister, of Skelmersdale, has obtained a certificate for swimming for her school. The distance was half a mile.

☆ ☆ ☆

Peggy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Greaves, of Sheffield, has passed her School Certificate examination.

☆ ☆ ☆

Elizabeth ap Rhys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. ap Rhys, of Bangor, has obtained her Higher School Certificate; she was top girl in the county. As a result, she has been offered a State scholarship which she will take up when she is nineteen. Their second daughter, Ceridwen, has matriculated at the age of fourteen, passing the School Certificate in all eight subjects.

☆ ☆ ☆

Joan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sayers, of Minster, has won a scholarship to St. George's Commercial School, Ramsgate.

☆ ☆ ☆

Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Tanner, of St. Ives, Cornwall, is a fine athlete. Running is his speciality, although cycling comes a close second. He won the Cup for the One Mile Race at Penzance County School in the record time of 5 mins. 2 secs., the Cross Country Race of 5 miles 1 furlong, in 33 mins. 19 secs., and is the only boy in Penzance School to have won his County Colours for the Mile.

☆ ☆ ☆

Christopher Potts, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Potts, of Norton-on-Tees, married Lilian Cowey at Norton Parish Church on August 6th.

Keeping the Ball Rolling

The Editor,

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR EDITOR,

While at Brighton, somebody read a REVIEW in which W. T. Scott, of Streatham, started what I believe was intended to be a book of St. Dunstan's reminiscences—*Keeping the Ball Rolling*. I do not know if it is still going, but if it is, I should like to submit my contribution.

A. J. RADFORD,
Castle Cary.

It was dark, very dark. In fact the chap on my left said it was "Hellish dark" and he was right—with the darkness punctuated by vivid flashes of guns, bursting shells and soaring Very lights. We crawled on our bellies like snakes, a few inches at a time, to some bushes that had once been a garden hedge where we were to take up our position and protect the British Army from surprise attack. The time—11 p.m., May 25th, 1918. There were no trenches, only shell-holes, and two Jerry machine-guns "scissoring" us. They scissored us all night, but we had orders not to reply. We had only to watch and listen and hold the shell-holes if attacked. Seven hours later. "Look out, they're coming," yelled a chap over on the left, and they came.

It was something bumping that woke me up. I was feeling like a mummy with my face tied up, and I reached with my hand to feel what was the matter but they were tied up. Then somebody spoke. "Want anything chum?" It was one of the stretcher bearers. "Where am I?" "Nell Lane, Manchester. You'll be inside in a minute." That was nine o'clock on the evening of the 30th. Four days. Was I hungry, and they gave me a drink of milk! "Fancy bringing the poor chap over here," said a nurse. "Give me a chance," says I, and they did. I was the only blind chap in that hospital, but as soon as I was O.K. they shifted me to St. Mark's. "You're going to St. Dunstan's," said Miss Preston. "I am not," said I, thinking St. D.'s was one of those horrible "institutions" one step removed from the cemetery. "Oh, yes you are!" said Mr. H., and I swore.

"Would you like to come out with me?" said a strong masculine voice. "Sure," says I. We went to tea somewhere and somebody asked me would I like to have something read. There were half a dozen chaps listening in, and that lad sure could read. The dial had mended up, but the right mitt and the left leg were still swinging it, and I cussed as I heard a lot of chaps dancing and singing, and a lot of girls, too, it sounded like. "Well, we'd better be off," said my friend, and I said good-night to the lady, and anybody who happened to listen, and wished myself back in Nell Lane, where they didn't torment you taking you to hear other folks enjoy themselves. "How'd you like it?" said my companion. "They seemed to enjoy their lives O.K. Where was it, an hotel?" "In a way, yes; that was St. Dunstan's." "What, where all the blind chaps go?" "Yes; all the men in your ward will be going there." "Who were the folks dancing and singing?" "Only the boys and the sisters."

That set me thinking. I'd cussed flashes ever since leaving Nell Lane. I'd cussed the Colonel

at Whitworth Street and I nearly cussed the M.O. at St. Mark's who had been M.O. to my old battalion in the early days and had sat chinning on my bed. Why? Because he said I was blinded and he couldn't do anything. I quit the cussing, and Miss Duff started in to show me things, and Miss Preston started me on the road to independence with that horrible watch that you had to grope at. Soon I was mooching around. Gee, whiz, a lot of these guys were smashed up heaps worse'n me, and actually looking forward to going to St. Dunstan's.

It was November 11th, eleven o'clock, and the maroons went off, and there was I and a few more marooned up there in the Board-room. That was a climax, being kicked out at eleven o'clock, the last minute of the blessed war. Well, I said "Give me a chance" when I landed in Nell Lane, and did I get it?

It's just over twenty years now. I read and write and enjoy life and health. Days are short and full. Did I get it?

Letters to the Editor

DEAR SIR,

In June, 1918, I was invalided home minus the left eye. In the following August I was detailed fit for home service, and sent as ward orderly to Northampton Military Hospital. On arrival there I found a staff of seven R.A.M.C.'s (who had not been overseas) assisted by local V.A.D.'s. At meals we were joined by a man of the Gloucester Regiment who was always on soft diet. About the second or third day one asked me if I had been on the field, and where. I said "At Neuve Chapelle, March, 1915." Would I tell them my experience? I thought they wanted to do a bit of leg pulling, but they assured me it was not so—so I told them the following. It was on the second night after the battle. We had orders to mop up a piece of ground. We had nearly finished our section when a party with a stretcher next to us thought they heard a call. Groping about they found two men both injured in the leg and one, a splinter of shell had entered his mouth, splitting his tongue and palate. At this the Gloucester man asked the orderly next to him to ask for further details. When I had given these he came to the end of the table, shook my hand warmly and mumbled: "If you ever see those pals of yours again, thank them for me." He was waiting for a roof plate to be fitted, and left the hospital a few days later.

At the Fifty-third Reunion I was able to convey his thanks to my comrades.

S. W. WAIN,
Derby.

DEAR SIR,

I thought the following might amuse REVIEW readers. It's a true story.

The other day my daughter (aged eleven) asked me what "ruddy" meant. I told her—a reddish complexion. She immediately said, "How does that apply to the dog when she is white? That is what you call her sometimes." I did not quite collapse, but very nearly.

W. BURTONSHAW,
Wimborne.

A Visit to a Deaf-blind Holiday Home

ON August 23rd, a very happy evening was spent by five St. Dunstaners at the holiday home at Hoylake for the deaf-blind. Messrs. Fallowfield and Wheeler were spending a holiday there, and Mr. Home, the secretary, very kindly invited Messrs. Harry Cook, T. Milner, J. C. Owen, W. Shayler and S. Williams to spend the evening with their old comrades. Unfortunately Messrs. Shayler and Williams could not turn up.

A very fine dinner had been prepared by the matron, and after dinner the visitors were shown over the home. Then all adjourned to the house of Mr. Watson (one of the committee) where liquid refreshment was very kindly provided by the host, during which a good deal of talking was indulged in and we (the visitors) told our South Country friends of some of the wonders of Liverpool and its environs.

Mr. Home has put his heart and soul into this work, and I am sure that he must be very gratified when he knows of the pleasure he gives to those who come to stay at the establishment, but he is not satisfied and will not be until he has carried out his next project, i.e. to have a much larger place and thus find accommodation for a larger number. One of his most heart-breaking tasks is to have to refuse many applications from all over the country. It would be very interesting to know what Messrs. Fallowfield and Wheeler thought of the North of England and also what their impressions of the home were.

J. C. O.

I Remember

It was my typing lesson (it happened in 1915). I suggested to Miss Woods, my teacher, that I should type a letter to my brother George, who was at that time a soldier stationed at Chatham. So away I went. I had got well into the letter when the late King George V paid a surprise visit to St. Dunstan's. On his round he came to where I was typing, and asked me to let him see what I was doing. His surprise must have been very great for what I had written was "Dear George."

H. E. HILL.
Devizes.

Competition

How many words of two or more letters can you make from the word, BRIGHTON? A prize of 10s. 6d. to the sender of the longest list. Proper names are not allowed. Closing date: 5th December.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Swimming

The annual Gala took place at Marylebone Baths on Friday, October 28th. Although the attendance was not up to expectations, the races were very keenly contested and the public were surprised at the close finish of both races. F. Rhodes thanked all present for assisting, the prize donors, and Mr. Roberts, Mr. Blake and Mr. Bloxham who helped to judge.

RESULTS

(one length handicap)

Section A—T. W. Collyer 1st
H. Crabtree 2nd
G. L. Douglas 3rd

Won by a touch with third man a foot away

Section B—F. Rhodes 1st
W. Lacey 2nd
W. Robinson 3rd

Won by 2ft. Third man one yard away

Plunge
W. Lacey 1st
F. Rhodes 2nd
H. Crabtree 3rd

After prizes were presented, Mr. Bloxham thanked the "boys" for their display and expressed his pleasure at being with them once again. So ended a very pleasant evening.

Children's Gala

LAST Friday, November 4th, the children's races were decided at Marylebone Baths, and with a record entry, some most exciting races were witnessed by mothers and fathers and other spectators. It was difficult for Corpl.-Major Dawkins and an independent judge to tell 1st, 2nd and 3rd, so close were the finishes. Jean Rhodes in girls and E. Burran in boys swam a great race only to be beaten into 3rd place by touches; both started from scratch mark.

Results:—

Girls B. Tomkinson 1st
M. Burran 2nd
J. Rhodes 3rd
Boys I. Wylie 1st
J. Henry 2nd
E. Burran 3rd.

After the races Mr. Ellis, who has had a long illness, kindly presented the prizes with a cheery word for each winner.

W. JONES.

University Rugby Match

We have received from the Cambridge University Rugby Union Football Club a number of tickets for the University match at Twickenham on Tuesday, December 6th.

Will those St. Dunstaners who would like to attend send in their names to the Sports Office not later than Tuesday, November 29th, when a draw will be made for the tickets if necessary.

Bridge Club

Telephonists have challenged the Mas-seurs to the best of three matches to be played before Christmas, and Drummer Downs, representing the "other trades," has challenged the Telephonists and Mas-seurs, thus making a three-cornered contest. For further information regarding this contest, see your sectional representative.

H. GOVER,
Secretary.

Brighton

SUMMER SPORTS, 1938 FINAL SCORES

SECTION A.		Total Points	H'cap	Result
1st	W. Gannaway	330		330
2nd	S. Pike ...	290	—30	260
3rd	C. Kirk	235		235
4th	G. Lidbetter ...	210		210
5th	T. Rouse	230	—50	180
6th	R. Williams ...	90		90
7th	G. Fallowfield	65	—20	45
8th	T. Astbury ...	25		25
SECTION B.				
1st	T. Dickinson	400	—30	370
2nd	G. Peach ...	395	—50	345
3rd	T. Millward ...	225		225
4th	T. Ashe ...	200		200
5th	W. Markwick	145		145
6th	G. Bullen ...	25		25

The next meeting of the Brighton Club will be held on Wednesday, December 14th.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. Aldridge, of Dagenham, who celebrated their silver wedding on October 19th, to Mr. and Mrs. Welton, of Cleethorpes, whose anniversary was on October 26th, and to Mr. and Mrs. J. Papps, of Dunstable, who will celebrate theirs on December 8th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mrs. Levett, wife of our St. Dunstaner, J. L. Levett, of West Worthing, runs a domino tournament at the Blind Home Club in Worthing every winter. She herself has taught many of the blind and deaf men and women at the Home.

Home Counties Rambles

With reference to the notice in last month's REVIEW, St. Dunstaners have been invited by the Home Counties. Ramblers to take part in their rambles, further dates of which are given below. Any number will be welcomed and only the railway fare would have to be paid.

Sunday, December 11th	"The Heart of Herts" Special train	Dep. Kings Cross 9.35 a.m. to Ayot, Fare- 2s.
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Sunday, January 1st	To Kingswood	Dep. Victoria a.m. Fare 2s.
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Sunday, January 8th	"Fine Views"	Dep. Waterloo a.m. To Clandon, Fare, 3s. 6d.
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If you wish to attend will you please notify the Sports Office of your intention to enable the organizing secretary to make the necessary arrangements.

Subsequent dates for rambles will be published later.

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson

THE Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson will be held this year at the Chapel of the Brighton Home at 2.30 on the afternoon of Friday, December 9th.

Sir Neville Pearson, Bart., will read the Lesson, and the Service will be conducted by our Chaplain, the Rev. R. M. Raper.

The majority of the congregation will be men staying at the Home, but a certain number of seats will be kept for men who live in or near Brighton, if they will apply to Matron by December 6th. In the event of there being more applications than there are places, Matron will give preference in the allocation of seats to those who knew Sir Arthur Pearson, and if there are still not enough seats, she will take a ballot. St. Dunstaners, therefore, who live in or near Brighton and wish to attend the Service should write at once to Matron and tell her.

On the morning of December 9th, a deputation of St. Dunstaners will proceed to Hampstead Cemetery from Headquarters to place a wreath on Sir Arthur's grave. Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Askew at Headquarters.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE A. DAVIES
(12th Yorkshire Regiment)

WE record with deep regret the death of A. Davies, of Middlesbrough, which occurred on August 6th.

This St. Dunstaner came to us in December, 1917, having served from the early days of the War until March, 1916. Trained as a mat-maker, he carried on with this occupation for some time and was very happy in his work, but for very many years, he has been more or less bedridden.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was sent from London for the funeral.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Davies, who has nursed her husband devotedly for so many years, and to her five children.

LANCE-CORPORAL MARTIN LANE
(King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of M. Lane, of South Tottenham.

Lane was badly wounded at the battle of Ypres, as a result of which both his eyes had to be removed. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1915, and was trained in both basket and mat-making, continuing with the latter occupation until the time of his death. His health had not been good for some little time, but his last illness was so sudden and so short that his death, which took place in the North Middlesex Hospital on September 20th, came as a complete shock to his relatives and friends. The funeral took place a few days afterwards, and was attended by many relatives and friends. There were a great number of beautiful wreaths, including one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Lane and her family in their great bereavement.

PRIVATE THEOPHILUS STEVENSON
(1/5th King's Own Royal Lancashire Regiment)

WE have with very deep regret to record the death of T. Stevenson, of Padiham.

Enlisting in July 1916, Stevenson was wounded at Cambrai in 1917, and as a result came to St. Dunstan's early in 1918.

Although not strong, he was a first-class workman, and for many years was happily and busily engaged with his boot repairing and clogging rather more perhaps than with his mat-making, which he had also learned while with us.

About two years ago, however, his health broke down completely, and for some time he has been more or less an invalid. His death occurred at his home on October 16th.

Members of the British Legion acted as bearers at the funeral which took place four days later. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Stevenson and her two children.

MASTER-AT-ARMS GEORGE FRANK YARROW
(Royal Navy)

WE record with deepest regret the death of October 5th, on G. F. Yarrow, of Portchester.

Yarrow lost his sight while serving in the Royal Navy, in which he had served for twenty-two years, and came to St. Dunstan's in 1917 for training. For some time he did a little work at Netting, but recently had been able to fill in his time without needing an occupation. His health had always seemed fairly good and his death, which occurred so suddenly, was a great shock to his relatives and friends. Pneumonia had followed influenza.

Yarrow was buried at Kingston Cemetery a few days later and his funeral was attended by his family and many friends, including several St. Dunstaners. There were many beautiful wreaths including one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

PRIVATE JOHN SMITH
(2nd Batt. Royal Scots Regiment)

WE have heard with the deepest regret of the death of J. Smith, of Auckland, a British blinded soldier who had settled in New Zealand. He passed away in the Auckland Hospital on October 13th, after having suffered from very indifferent health for many years.

Although blinded as a result of war service, of course, Smith did not come under St. Dunstan's care until March, 1935.

He leaves a widow and three children, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

Births

BROOKS.—To the wife of A. T. Brooks, of Bourne-mouth, on October 12th, a son.

DEVLIN.—To the wife of S. T. Devlin, of St. Helens, on October 18th, a son—John.

Death

BUCHANAN.—We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. H. Buchanan, of Wood Green, who lost their little son, John Douglas, tragically, on October 14th. John, who was only six years old, was knocked down by a lorry while he was playing, and was killed.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 247.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

DECEMBER, 1938

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A Happy Christmas

CHRISTMAS is a time when we think of old friends and distant friends. The recent international crisis has brought the Dominions and the Mother Country closer together in thought, and the air mails have brought them nearer in time. Many Australian and New Zealand St. Dunstaners have posted their letters to me six weeks or more in advance of Christmas to ensure delivery under the old postal arrangements, not realizing that the air mails would bring their letters in less than half that time. Thus I have been reading some of my Christmas post this week.

"Remember me to my old friends at St. Dunstan's", or "Best of good luck to all at St. Dunstan's" say the writers. We in the Old Country reciprocate these messages, and will think at Christmas time of the Dominions men we knew in the War or at St. Dunstan's. The best of good luck to them and their families.

A Notable St. Dunstaner

One of my Christmas letters was from Captain Frank Marriott, C.M.G., M.H.A., blinded at Bapaume, February, 1917, who was at St. Dunstan's for about a year, and then returned to his own country, Tasmania. An active and successful farmer, he has brought up a family of four boys, all of whom are now started in life, some with families of their own. He is now in his seventeenth year of political life, and if the present Tasmanian Parliament runs its full course, he will have completed twenty years in the Tasmanian House of Assembly and have fought six successive general elections without losing one. This is a record. Commissioner of Boy Scouts for Tasmania, Federal President of Toc H in Tasmania, Member of the Board of Management of the Tasmanian Blind Institution, active supporter of every good and patriotic cause in the Island, he is a notable public figure, a citizen of whom the Empire may be proud, and a St. Dunstaner of whom we are all proud. And he does not forget us, for in his letter to me he most gracefully makes the following acknowledgement—" . . . these have all served to make a life, which, but for the training of St. Dunstan's, might have been a very empty one, full of interest, and for this I am truly thankful."

Brighton Going Strong

The new Brighton Home is going strong. By the time Christmas is over more than three hundred St. Dunstaners will have spent a period of holiday or convalescence there. I continue to receive letters and messages, and am able to gather at first hand from

frequent visits that the Home is fulfilling our highest expectations. The newcomer very quickly learns his way around because the building has been designed on a symmetrical plan to make this easy. The comfort of the wards, which are always fresh without draughts, and the splendid beds are frequently commented upon. The programmes from three wireless stations laid on at every bed give tremendous pleasure. Lady Fraser was down there the other day and told me that almost everyone in the Home heard the big fight which ended so abruptly and unfortunately. Many went to bed early for the sole purpose of enjoying it undisturbed. Our private bus makes regular journeys to Brighton and Rottingdean to fit in with the general convenience of the men. The food is praised by many. The staff is settling down. All this is as it should be, but it is gratifying, nevertheless.

The Good Companions

A few weeks ago I issued an appeal to the citizens of Brighton and Hove to join a Corps of Voluntary Helpers to provide "guides, philosophers and friends" for St. Dunstaners, to go for a walk, to read aloud, to organize or mark at a game of dominoes, to write letters, to act as extra V.A.D.s and so on. I want these ladies and gentlemen to be good companions to St. Dunstan's men, and I call them The Good Companions of St. Dunstan's. Mr. C. J. M. Whittaker, M.C., a well-known solicitor in Brighton, has been good enough to undertake the chairmanship of this new corps. A committee from amongst the members themselves has been appointed. Already over two hundred have enrolled. This sounds a very large number, but divided over seven days all through the year it is not too great. The Good Companions, too, are settling down, learning how best they can help, and the men are appreciating their services. I know this Corps has already made an enormous difference to the happiness of our men and the enjoyment of their holidays. I should like to express on behalf of St. Dunstaners as a whole our appreciation of the work of the Good Companions and our hope that they will continue their services in the regular and friendly way they have begun.

Good Luck to All

To all St. Dunstaners and their families in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and wherever else they may be, my wife and I wish a Happy Christmas and Good Luck in the New Year.

IAN FRASER.

A Christmas Message

MY DEAR BOYS,

Right through your doorway comes my warmest Christmas Greetings to each and every one of you, your wives and families, and when the New Year comes I shall be with you all again, wishing you many blessings of peace and happiness for 1939.

Always your friend,
WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD.

Commentating

Captain H. Whitelaw-Wilson is the St. Dunstaner referred to in Captain Wakelam's book of reminiscences mentioned here last month.

Captain Whitelaw-Wilson says: "As a rugger enthusiast, I went many times to matches with Captain Wakelam. He would sit in a box on a raised platform which was reached by an ordinary wooden step-ladder. I sat on a chair just outside. Thus, looking out past my head, he would give his commentary on the play."

Does This Interest You?

WE propose to publish, starting with the January issue of the *REVIEW*, a supplement on poultry keeping and a supplement on gardening.

These will only be issued to those who are interested in the subject. Thus, the poultry supplement will be sent to all poultry keepers, but others who keep a few birds should write and ask that it be sent to them. Similarly those who are interested in their gardens should ask that their name be put on the list to receive the gardening supplement, addressing all letters to Mr. Ferguson, Country Life Section, at Headquarters.

The supplements will deal primarily with points of interest during the month after each publication.

Suggestions for their improvement will be welcomed and every effort will be made to make these as helpful as possible.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the Editor of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

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7s. 6d.
which I enclose { 3s. 9d. } for
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Name

Address

N.B.—Please strike out the period and charge not required.



About St. Dunstaners

J. S. Harrison, of Baker Street, N.W.1, has just had presented to him by the West Australian Rowing Association an inscribed blade showing the names of the crew and date of the Inter-state Race at Melbourne on May 3rd, 1914, when our St. Dunstaner rowed No. 3 in the Western Australian boat. The presentation was made by Miss Shaw, daughter of the President of the Association, who, with her mother, has been visiting this country.

A. Bundy, President of the Gloucester Services Club, placed the wreath on the City's War Memorial on Armistice Day. On the evening of November 12th, he attended the Club's annual Armistice Dinner. The City Member, giving the Toast of "The Chairman", said, "Mr. Bundy is one of the leading and most popular personalities in the life of the Club. He is its honoured President, and he enjoys the friendship, commands the respect, and excites the admiration of all who have the good fortune to meet him."

R. Cowley, of St. John's Wood, was guest of honour at a coming of age party in Pinner, Middlesex, last month. The party was for David Wallis, son of Col. F. H. Wallis. Cowley was a dispatch runner during the war and he brought the news of his son's birth to Col. Wallis in a telegram. Col. Wallis, temporarily blinded, could not read the wire and asked Cowley to read it for him. Two months later Cowley was blinded.

J. Sheehy, of Dover, placed a wreath on the local war memorial on Armistice Day on behalf of Major the Hon. J. J. Astor, M.P., and Lady Violet Astor. Congratulations to Sheehy, who has again been re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Kent Council of the British Legion, Vice-Chairman of the British Legion and United Services Fund Benevolent Committee, Dover, and representative of disabled men on the War Pensions Committee.

J. Gribben and W. Berry, with Mr. N. Macauley, placed the wreath on the War Memorial at Belfast on Armistice Day; J. Boyce, of Upwey, paid similar tribute at the memorial in St. Lawrence's Church, Upwey.

A. Abram, of Stockport, was a member of Mr. W. Rutter's orchestra when it played at the annual dinner of the old comrades of the 6th Cheshires last month. A tribute to Abram appeared in the *Stockport Express*, and he was also congratulated at the dinner by the Colonel of the regiment and other officers.

—And St. Dunstaners' Wives

Mrs. C. T. Condon, of Worting, Basingstoke, holds the important position of President of her Women's Institute, and has been asked to stand again for the coming year. Its members number approximately ninety. These Women's Institutes play an extremely important part in the life of the women of the country, and usually include the most well-known and influential people of the district. Is Mrs. Condon the only St. Dunstaners' wife holding this position?

Mrs. J. Palmer, of Thornton Heath, took part in an exciting fire rescue last month.

The fire broke out in the next-door house, and was apparently caused by the occupant, an old lady of seventy-two, accidentally dropping some linen on the stove. She made a gallant effort to drag the burning linen into the garden, but by this time the kitchen was well alight. Mrs. Palmer saw her plight, sent her lodger to call the Croydon Fire Brigade, and herself dragged the old lady out of the kitchen. The interior of the house was gutted and the old lady was badly burned, but Mrs. Palmer's quick action undoubtedly saved her from more serious injuries, and perhaps death.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives, who have celebrated their silver wedding recently, or will do so very shortly: Mr. and Mrs. J. Mitchell, of Edinburgh, November 21st; Mr. and Mrs. J. Selby, of Larkfield, near Canterbury, December 1st; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Lamb, of Withernsea, December 18th; Mr. and Mrs. W. Lowings, of Eastleigh, December 20th; Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Clark, of Bermondsey, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Strutt, of Sheffield, both on Christmas Day.

The New Brighton Home

The Chapels

"**A**TENT of God—a place for prayer, for comfort, and for peace, in which the inspiration of the memories and prayers of the Chapel of the old Brighton Home still lives"—thus the Bishop of Chichester described the Chapel of the new Home at Ovingdean when he dedicated it in October.

The Chapel is a fit setting for the purpose for which it has been dedicated. It is beautiful in its simplicity.

It lies at the foot of the Home, but it is quite separate from the main building. It is rectangular in shape, and the entrance is at the west, or lower end. A plain stone cross, set upon the brickwork above the entrance canopy, alone relieves the austerity of its face. Surmounting the rear of the Chapel, immediately below the entrance of the Home itself which rises behind it, is the stone figure of Winged Victory holding the St. Dunstan's badge.

The entrance leads into the nave which can accommodate about one hundred and fifty people. The pews on either side are of walnut, padded with leather; and the lower part of each pew drops to form a kneeling rest.

The four deep windows on either side are of plain glass; the walls are of cream, and the whole effect is one of light.

The organ loft is immediately over the entrance and above it is the only piece of stained glass in the Chapel. It is the window composed of glass from the Cloth Hall at Ypres which was presented to St. Dunstan's by one of its officers, the Rev. Harold Gibb, in May, 1936. The organ is a fine Compton organ.

At the east end of the nave is the raised chancel. On the north and south sides of the chancel opening are the lectern and the pulpit, and behind these are two rows of choir stalls.

A simple gold cross stands upon the beautiful altar cloth of blue and gold, which was a piece of tapestry used at the Coronation and has been presented to St. Dunstan's by Lady (Arthur) Pearson. A bronze carpet leading from the chancel to the altar was also used during the Coronation as part of the carpet covering the floor of Westminster Abbey.

Behind the altar, rising almost to the ceiling, is an exquisitely painted design in

blue and gold. It represents a dove with outspread wings, superimposed on a circle of light from which radiate beams of gold.

Over the chancel, inset in the ceiling, is a circle of opaque glass and through this a soft light falls upon the altar. At night, concealed lighting illuminates the altar.

Since its dedication, a number of services have been held in the Chapel by our Chaplain, the Rev. R. M. Raper. They have been well attended. The members of the choir have been fellow St. Dunstaners, looking very dignified in their blue cassocks and surplices. The first service after the Dedication was Harvest Festival. The Chapel was crowded too, on the evening of December 4th, when a service of remembrance was held for our late Matron, Miss Thellusson, whose magnificent work and splendid example was recalled by Mr. Raper.

Although the Chapel is essentially Church of England, the services are as simple as possible so that they may have a wide appeal to men of all denominations.

The Roman Catholic Chapel

A room on the fourth floor of the Home has been converted into a most beautiful little Chapel in which Canon Newton or one of his curates celebrates Holy Mass once a week if possible. Sister Peacock is Sister-in-Charge of the Chapel.

On December 3rd, the anniversary of our late Matron's death, Mass was said in her memory. It must have pleased her spirit to think that the work she began at the old Home is being so faithfully carried on.

Successes

At Higham Ferrers R.A.O.B. Chrysanthemum Show A. J. Holland won 1st and 3rd prizes for his specimen blooms, and a special prize for the finest bloom in the show. This, a white flower, was 11in. in breadth and 11in. in depth.

Mrs. Hutchinson, wife of our St. Dunstaner, L. Hutchinson, of Barnby Moor, exhibited her husband's whippets at the important Metropolitan and Essex Show last month. "Flight Lieutenant" won a 1st prize and two 3rds, and "Lady Be Good" won one 1st and one reserve prize.

D. Batchelor, of Banbury, won several prizes for his bantams at the Banbury Show early in November.

Brighton News

AS all St. Dunstaners know, the New Home is now occupied, though it has not yet been officially opened. Much has been said and written about it, but to appreciate fully the improvements, the attention to detail, and the comfort, it is necessary to spend a holiday there. The only tinge of regret is that it isn't quite in the town, but that is a small detail, as our own private and very comfortable bus runs at regular intervals, so there is no trouble in getting to any particular destination.

There *is* another regret—that suitcases are not made big enough to hold one of the sorbo mattresses, which all agree are the most comfortable they have ever slept on. I might also add that the soldier's dream has been realized, for one is awakened in the morning by the arrival of a cup of tea at the bedside—only the Sergeant Major is missing!

The new corps of Good Companions are providing plenty of escorts and cars for walks and drives—to say nothing of several excellent concerts which they have organized, and just to show that, though we have gained many new friends, the old ones have not forgotten us, Mr. and Mrs. Pittman with their good helpers gave their usual supper and dance at which each of our men received a money gift and cigarettes, but the boys who could not go to the dance were not forgotten and next day each of them was sent five shillings and a "packet of twenty". The busmen also gave their winter dinner and dance for us at the Princes' Hall, where many useful prizes were won by our men.

A number of St. Dunstaners were present at the annual dinner of the Rottingdean branch of the British Legion on November 2nd. Major W. F. Wraight, county secretary, welcomed the St. Dunstan guests, as also did Major C. H. Cooper. The toast of "Our Guests" was submitted by the Rev. W. O. White, who said he would add the title of "distinguished guests". There were none, he added, more entitled to that title than their friends from St. Dunstan's. Dick Newman responded on behalf of the St. Dunstaners, and said that although Ovingdean was their postal address, Rottingdean was their brewery address. "ONLOOKER."

What St. Dunstaners think of the New Home

Appreciative letters about the new Home at Ovingdean continue to come in. Here are extracts from just a few of them:

"I have just returned from a week-end at the new Home at Ovingdean; in my opinion it is a marvellous building. There is simply everything for one's comfort. Anyone who is not satisfied with this structure will not feel comfortable in Paradise.

"I find the distance to the White Horse is ten minutes going, and thirty minutes on the return journey."

F. G. BRAITHWAITE.

Guildford.

"The arrangements made for deaf St. Dunstaners at the Home enabled me to enjoy my week-end to the full. I was also glad to find a barber was there."

R. J. WILLIAMS.

Southwick.

"Grand. Everything a man could wish for."

M. COSTELLO.

Clacton.

"The Home is marvellous. The beds are wonderfully comfortable. I will take a large trunk the next time and stay there for good."

R. WESTWOOD.

Bellerby.

"My first impression on entering the Home was one of amazement, bewilderment and finally the simplicity of it all. If a man is not happy there, he will not be happy anywhere."

C. T. CONDON.

Basingstoke.

"I have never seen anything so near perfection in all my travels.

"Everything has been catered for—quiet, music, cards or dominoes, transport, and the staff are wonderful under the very able management of our beloved Matron."

J. C. OWEN.

Liverpool.

"It seems that nothing has been forgotten that would in any way help towards our comfort. I shall take away with me many happy memories of my first visit here."

C. GLASSPOOL.

Brixton Hill, S.W.2.

"Surpasses all expectations."

G. WILKINS.

Reading.

"I had a very happy and interesting time exploring the house, or I think it would be more fitting to say the mansion. During my stay I found it very easy to find my way about as the plan has been so well thought out. We have the best Matron we could ever wish, and a very good staff of sisters and orderlies who do all they can to make one feel happy and comfortable."

J. KIRKHAM.

Southampton.

Result of Scenario Competition

THIS competition proved more popular with St. Dunstan's men than with the staff, although the standard of entries in both sections was very good. In consultation with Mr. Arthur Leslie, a well-known authority on the art of the film, it has been decided to award the prizes as follows:—

St. Dunstan's men—

First Prize (five pounds), A. J. Radford, Castle Cary.

Second Prize (one guinea), W. Shakespeare, Birmingham.

St. Dunstan's staff—

First Prize (five pounds), J. Boyd, Brighton.

Second Prize (one guinea), S. C. Hall, Raglan Street.

Commenting upon the entries, Mr. Leslie said:—

"I consider all of them quite good efforts which discloses the fact that the writers are appreciative of the story valuation in the films they go to and have an eye for original treatment."

Competition for Deaf St. Dunstaners

WE have received from G. Fallowfield some suggestions for competitions in Braille. Feeling that such might be welcome and knowing most of our deaf men to be keen Braillists, it has been decided to confine entries to such men for the present.

The following is the first competition—send in a sentence written in Braille which can also be read upside down. A prize of 10s. 6d. will be given to the man who sends in the longest sentence. Entries should be addressed to the Editor of the REVIEW and reach us not later than January 15th.

We should appreciate any ideas that may occur to you for competitions of a similar nature to the one above, as if the response is encouraging we should like to run contests of the kind from time to time.

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson

THE Memorial Service for our Founder, the late Sir Arthur Pearson, was held in the Chapel of the new Brighton Home on the afternoon of Friday, December 9th.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson, D.B.E., Sir

Neville Pearson, Bart., Captain Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Miss Hamar Greenwood, Miss W. Boyd-Rochfort, and Mr. Askew, were present with nearly one hundred St. Dunstaners to pay tribute to Sir Arthur's memory, "that splendid life for whom we thank God to-day."

The Lesson, "The greatest of these is Love" (1 Corinthians, xiii) was read by Sir Neville Pearson, who in a short address described to St. Dunstaners the beauty of the Chapel in which they were assembled. "The beauty of this place," said Sir Neville, "leads one to think of other forms of beauty, particularly the beauty and nobility of character, and in that connection one's mind turns naturally to all those who are connected with this place, and to-day particularly to our Founder, and those attributes in his character."

Dr. Leonard Marsh, F.R.C.O., the well-known blind organist, was at the organ. The Rev. R. M. Raper, Chaplain, conducted the service.

☆ ☆ ☆

A party of St. Dunstaners, Drummer Downs, A. Craigie, and J. Edwards, accompanied by Mr. J. Dawkins, visited Hampstead Cemetery during the morning, where they placed a wreath in the form of our badge on Sir Arthur's grave. A very beautiful wreath from St. Dunstan's telephonists was also on the grave.

Competition Corner

WITH 118 words, W. Webb, of Great Houghton, wins last month's prize of 10s. 6d. for the highest number of words in BRIGHTON, but we have decided to award a consolation prize of five shillings to A. S. Emerson, of Little Clacton, who was a close second with 116 words. Here is another competition.

"GOOD LUCK TO ALL ST. DUNSTANERS"

From the letters in the sentence above, make another sentence. Each letter must, of course, only be used the number of times it appears here, and none of the actual words above should be used.

A prize of one guinea will be awarded to the sender of the *longest* sentence and there will be consolation prizes of five shillings for the two next best. Even if you cannot use up all the letters, send in your sentence. It may still win a prize. At the top of your entry, state the number of words in your sentence. Closing date: January 6th, 1939.

The Great Scheme

HE burst into my room, face aglow with excitement. Without stopping to sit down, he let it loose.

"You know I'm learning Braille," he began, "and I never could remember those beastly numerals—you know, A for 'one', B for 'two', and the rest. Well, I've thought out a splendid scheme for remembering them. Listen."

I pushed my papers patiently on one side, and prepared to listen.

"This is it," he went on, "I'd like you to hear it, so that you can hand it on to the other poor blighters who are learning Braille. It's simply association of ideas, you see. A stands for 'one'—A1; that's easy, isn't it?"

I agreed, but murmured that I thought I might have managed to remember A for 'one' without any aid to memory. He ignored my remark, and went on.

"Now, B for 'two'. You remember that by thinking that it's not be-fore, but be-ty. See the idea?"

I did see—dimly.

"C for 'three'," he proceeded, "that's obvious—C3 population and all that, don't you see? Now, D for 'four' is another negative one, like B for 'two'. You think to yourself, it's not B-fore but D-fore. So far so good."

I gave a gulp, and steadied myself. "Go on," I said calmly.

"E for 'five' has done me absolutely," he continued. "It's the only one I couldn't find anything for. So we have to remember it by its being the only exception. After all, the exception proves the rule, doesn't it?"

I said I supposed it did. At any rate, he was now half way through.

The second half began without any interval.

"F for 'six' is an easy one. Six rhymes with fix. I've made a little verse about it—'If you can't think of six, you'll be in a fix.' Quite neat, don't you think?"

"Quite," I said.

"Now, the next one is the gem of the lot. I'm rather proud of it. G for 'seven'. Gee means horse. That makes you think of the Seven Horsemen of the Apocalypse. And there you are. Rather good, eh?"

"Very ingenious," I answered, "but surely there weren't seven——"

But he was off again.

"H for 'eight' is quite simple. Eight sounds like 'hate'. You can remember it by thinking how you hate Braille. Of course, you don't really, but you might. Then, I for 'nine'. I is the chief sound in 'nine'. So that's that. J for 'nought' had me thinking for a long time. Then I said, 'By Jove, I have it! D'ye see it? O stands for 'nought', and O comes next to J in Jove."

"And that's the lot," he concluded, triumphantly, adding reflectively, "You can't think what a lot of concentration it's meant. If there'd been any more, I don't think my brain would have stood it."

I assured him that mine certainly would not.

MEDOC.

Advice to Contributors

(Not, however, to be taken too seriously)

If you've got a thought that's happy

Boil it down.

Make it short and crisp and snappy—

Boil it down.

When your brain its coin has minted,

Down the page your pen has sprinted.

If you want your effort printed—

Boil it down.

Take out every surplus letter—

Boil it down.

Fewer syllables the better—

Boil it down.

Make your meaning plain. Express it

So we'll know—not merely guess it;

Then, my friend, 'ere you address it

Boil it down.

Cut out all the extra trimmings—

Boil it down.

Skim it well—then skim the skimmings

Boil it down.

When you're sure 'twould be a sin to

Put another sentence in.

Send it on, and we'll begin to

BOIL IT DOWN.

Author unknown.

From Our Post Bag

I had the pleasure of doing a guard of honour to the late Queen of Norway, then known as Princess Maud, accompanied by Princess Christian, whilst she was opening a bazaar at St. George's Hall, Liverpool, in the year 1896—forty-two years ago. I was enlisted then in the Irish Brigade volunteers.

I know there are still a few faithful old-timers, amongst our St. Dunstan's boys, but I wonder if any of them have ever done a guard of honour before Royalty previous to this date—1896?

T. W. BLOOMFIELD,

Liverpool.

Young St. Dunstaners

Ivor, the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Wylie, of Bromley, has won a Central School scholarship.

☆ ☆ ☆

Delcie, the thirteen years old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Muir, of North Gosforth, has passed with Honours in the Intermediate Section of the London College of Music.

☆ ☆ ☆

Ethel, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hill, of Tideswell, has won her School Certificate at the age of fifteen.

☆ ☆ ☆

Noreen Taylor, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Taylor, of Lye, near Stourbridge, who is only ten, has passed with distinction the primary grade pianoforte examination of the Victoria College of Music, London.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rhodes's daughter, Jean, who learned to swim through St. Dunstan's (she is one of those who accompany their fathers to the swimming classes at Marylebone Baths) is now champion of her school at the age of thirteen. She has swum for Willesden Borough Team, the Willesden Guide Team competing in Middlesex Championship, and has been chosen to represent Middlesex for the Southern County Championship.

☆ ☆ ☆

In a novice solo singing contest in Abergele, Violet Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Roberts, of Rhyl, was an easy winner. The judge said that Violet had the makings of a really excellent contralto.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Woodhouse, of Derby, has been awarded a scholarship to Ashbourne Grammar School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Vera, the ten years old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Tarry, of Hastings, has won a scholarship, and she now joins her elder sister, Eileen, at the High School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mileham's daughter, Marjorie, was married at St. Andrew's Church, Gorleston-on-Sea, to Mr. H. C. Williams, of Gorleston.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the first period of four weeks, October 10th to November 6th.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Holmes, P. ...	...	113
2	Brown, M. Watson ...	...	109
3	Benning, A. ...	...	96
4	Carpenter, E. H. ...	...	87
5	Holmes, P. ...	...	81
6	Campbell, J. ...	...	79
7	Jarvis, A. ...	...	69
7	Jackson, G. C. ...	...	69
9	Smith, W. Alan ...	...	61
10	Pink, A. ...	...	58
11	Hill, R. E. ...	...	55
12	Knopp, H. A. ...	...	54
13	McIntosh, C. ...	...	50
14	Chaffin, A. ...	...	48
15	Fisher, T. M. ...	...	46
16	Jackson, G. C. ...	...	45
17	Hammett, H. A. ...	...	43
18	Woodcock, W. J. ...	...	38
19	McLaren, D. ...	...	31
20	McLaren, D. ...	...	26
21	Powell, G. ...	...	20
22	Webb, W. ...	...	17
23	Smith, W. Alan ...	...	16
24	Chaffin, A. ...	...	5

Wise Words

Man reaps what he sows, unless he be an amateur gardener.

☆ ☆ ☆

A philosopher is a man who can look at an empty glass with a smile.

☆ ☆ ☆

When a man says his word is as good as his bond—get his bond.

☆ ☆ ☆

The great misfortune to mankind is that only those out of office know how to solve great problems.

☆ ☆ ☆

If husbands went everywhere their wives told them to go, there would be fewer divorces but more widows.

☆ ☆ ☆

What is fame? The advantage of being known to people who don't know you.

☆ ☆ ☆

For every ill beneath the sun.

There is some remedy or none.

Should there be one, resolve to find it ;

If not, submit, and never mind it.

Telephonists' Reunion

A RECORD number of telephonists, shorthand-typists, and business men came to Headquarters on the night of November 25th for their annual reunion dinner. Even the stormy evening had failed to dampen down the attendance. Captain Sir Ian Fraser presided, and Lady Fraser was with him to welcome the guests. A very old friend of St. Dunstaners, Mr. Talbot O'Farrell, entertained the company with songs and stories, and he brought with him Miss Ann Seton who led the singing of many popular choruses, accompanying herself on the harp.

A most successful and enjoyable reunion in every way—that was the unanimous opinion.

An Unusual Patient

FRED CHANNING, of Winchmore Hill, one of our masseurs, has been treating a bull mastiff weighing nine stone.

The dog, Rex, injured his left knee six months ago and has since limped very badly. The veterinary surgeon in charge of the case ordered infra-red and massage treatment and Rex came to our St. Dunstaner.

The owner is most satisfied with the result of the treatment. As for the dog himself—directly he arrived at the treatment room, he would go over to his "doctor," nuzzle his hand, and solemnly go to the spot where he was to have his treatment. Once he went to sleep during the proceedings.

Physical Training at Home

THE physical training table as printed below has been arranged as the forerunner of subsequent tables to be published monthly with the hope that they may fulfil a long-felt want to the St. Dunstaner who cannot for various reasons keep up a series of exercises outside his own home.

The tables will, of necessity, be progressive and will be compiled having in mind the average age of members who are likely to use them. Column 2—the instruction column—is important inasmuch as it gives details of each position which enables the maximum benefit to be taken from each exercise.

Two or three times through each exercise, if done with vigour and concentration, should be sufficient and the whole table completed in twenty minutes easily.

Care should be taken if working indoors to have a good clear space, well away from any furniture.

Table I.

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES	INSTRUCTIONS.
(1) <i>Leg Ex.</i> —Heels raise—lower.	(1) Heels together, raise well up on toes, keep head erect.
(2) <i>Neck Ex.</i> —Head backward bend—upward stretch.	(2) Chin well tucked in, points of shoulders well back.
(3) <i>Arm Ex.</i> —Arms bend—arms downward stretch.	(3) Forearms perpendicular, clenched fingers facing points of shoulders, wrists straight.
(4) <i>Trunk Ex.</i> —Feet closed—hips firm—trunk bending sideways.	(4) Don't let head fall to side inclined.
(5) <i>Leg Ex.</i> —Hips firm—heels raising and knees bending.	(5) Well up on toes, bend knees outward to half knee bend, body upright.
GENERAL EXERCISES.	
(6) <i>Balance Ex.</i> —Hips firm—knee raise.	(6) Raise knee, thigh parallel to ground, instep directly below knee cap. Brace up standing leg.
(7) <i>Lateral Ex.</i> —Hips firm—alternate foot forward place—trunk turning.	(7) Turn trunk only towards forward leg, turn from the waist above, keep chin in.
(8) <i>Abdominal Ex.</i> —Hips firm—foot sideways place—trunk bending backward.	(8) Only bend about six inches, no more, keep chin in.
(9) <i>Dorsal Ex.</i> —Hips firm—foot sideways place—trunk bending forward.	(9) Keep elbows level with sides, chin must be kept in.
(10) <i>Marching Ex.</i> —Alternate heel raising with arm backward and forward movement.	(10) Walking on the spot. Keep ball of feet on ground and raise alternate heels, making a forward and backward movement of arms as you bend knee to raise heel.
FINAL EXERCISE.	
(11) Arms raising sideways and lowering with breathing.	(11) Breathe in as you raise arms and exhale as you lower them.

Keeping the Ball Rolling

May I be permitted to give that ball a push Scotty started rolling? I know my story isn't like the average St. Dunstan's for I didn't come from St. Mark's, and when I did arrive, I'd been deaf five years, and though I had made use of every opportunity that came my way to get out and about, I came for adventure, as I was ready at the time to fall in with anything. I found, however, only Mr. Banks and Miss Pain able to talk to the deaf when I did arrive that sunny Friday in May, 1923. There had never been a totally deaf man in St. Dunstan's before. There was, by a coincidence, one St. Dunstaner able to talk to me in London, Fred King, of Derby. Miss Pain equipped me with a pair of gloves. On the back of the right hand were the letters from A to M and on the left hand, N to Z; on the right, too, was Yes and the left No, and with these gloves I was sent down to the Brighton Annexe where nobody at all could talk to the deaf when I arrived. Things looked a bit black as the gloves were O.K. for the sighted staff, but not for our boys, so I set to and between tea and supper I taught Harry Mortimer, Joe Evans, Syd Bagstaff and R. J. Williams the proper manual alphabet and soon everybody learnt from the Boy Scout to Matron.

They were happy days at Brighton.

It was on January 2nd, 1924, that I came up to start my proper training and my chequered athletic career. Shall I ever forget my first race? It was on the wires in the spring in the 50 yards sprint—and our old friend Bill arranged to give me a tap on the back for "Go". The tap came and off I went, the wind in my face. The ground seemed to come up and hit my feet, rather than my feet go down to hit the ground; it was a queer experience to me, and I enjoyed it until suddenly something hit my right knee, something cut my left arm and over and over I went bumping and rolling. What had happened? Well, Bill had forgotten about the whistle at the end, had seen the danger a fraction after starting me, and had yelled to Ben Lomax to stop me. Ben had to think quickly, and he was in the act of ducking under the wire as I reached him.

Then came the walks. Will any of those who completed the seven laps round the Outer Circle in September, 1925, ever forget that day? It rained cats and dogs, coming down at one time as from a shower-bath. And what tricks the clerk of the weather played upon us at Maidenhead in 1928. We started out in brilliant sunshine, went through a semi-blizzard and finished up in sunshine.

One might write a whole chapter upon any one occasion, for we have done our stuff on many grounds, at Birmingham, Manchester, Brighton, Maidenhead, Wembley, Barnes and Putney. I know I've never had the pleasure of joining you in your concerts and expeditions to the theatre, but when the day comes for me to lay aside my sculls, unlace my walking shoes for the last time, and say "Good-bye to all that", I shall, I hope, still be able to look back upon some jolly days—and nights—spent with the sportsmen of St. Dunstan's and our very many good friends.

GEO. FALLOWFIELD,
Worthing.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Six Mile Walking Handicap

THIS, the opening walk of the season, took place at Headquarters on Saturday, November 19th. As last year, each man started at his handicap allowance, which resulted in a very keen and exciting race. The times and placings are as published on the opposite page.

A very much appreciated tea was served by Miss Davies and her helpers. Lady Fraser, who very kindly presented the prizes, thanked the walkers for taking part, and also all who had helped to make such an enjoyable afternoon's sport possible.

Nine Mile Walking Handicap

The nine-mile walking handicap race will take place from Headquarters, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, on Saturday, January 28th, at 2.30 p.m.

Unless we hear to the contrary, may we take it you will be taking part?

Bridge Tournament

RESULTS TO DATE

	P.	W	L.	D.	Pts.	Pos.
Waite						
Slaughter	13	6	6	1	13	3
Crook						
Nuyens	8	3	6	0	6	7
Coles						
Toft	14	8	6	0	16	2
Gover						
Thompson	15	11	4	0	22	1
Milligan						
Brown	9	2	6	0	4	9
Downs						
Graves	11	5	6	0	10	5
Rhodes						
Collins	6	3	3	0	6	8
Taylor						
Craigie	11	6	5	0	12	4
Winter						
Roden	8	3	4	1	7	6

Total of sixteen games to be played by each pair. Will competitors please forward results of matches to Sports Office immediately after each game to enable us to keep the chart up-to-date.

Tuesday Night Concert

Miss Zucker's concert will take place at Headquarters on February 14th, at 8.

Rambles

THE remaining dates are given below of Home Counties Rambles to which St. Dunstaners have been invited.

Sunday, January 15th.
"Sussex Richness"
Fernhurst.

Private Coach. Dep.
Charing Cross Und.
Emk. 9.30 a.m.

Sunday, January 22nd.
"Not So Far"
Bayford.

Dep. Kings Cross
(Local) 10.5 a.m.
C.D. fare 2s. 2d.

Sunday, February 12th.
"Beechwoods in the
Chilterns"
Fingest.

Private Coach.
Dep. Charing Cross
Und. Emk. 9.30 a.m.

Sunday, February 19th.
"Three Counties"
Cowden.

Special train.
Dep. Victoria a.m.
Fare 2s. 8d.

In the case of Coach Rambles, two members are invited when no charge whatsoever would be made; on other events any number would be welcomed and only the railway fare would have to be paid.

Members wishing to attend Coach Rambles must apply to the Sports Office when, if more than two applications are made, a draw will take place. With reference to the other Rambles please notify the Sports Office if you wish to attend.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton

Sports Club will be held at the Home on Wednesday, January 11th, 1939, at 5 p.m.

The arrangements with regard to bus service will be as for last month.

Mrs. Spurway

St. Dunstaners will join with us in sending our sincere congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Spurway upon the birth of a second little daughter on November 10th.

Sister Helen Goolden

ST. DUNSTANERS will hear with deep regret of the death of Sister Helen Goolden who was a V.A.D. at St. Dunstan's from 1920 to 1924, and came back to us as Lounge Sister in 1930 upon the death of Matron Power. Four years later, however, she resigned from that position owing to illness. In August of this year, she was taken seriously ill at East Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, and passed away there on December 3rd.

A Record?

D. Batchelor, of Banbury, writes:

"As Mrs. Batchelor and I went down the village to the Cenotaph on November 11th, we passed an apple tree in full bloom. I think this must be a record."

SIX MILE WALK, 19th November, 1938

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Time	Handicap Allowance	Position in H'cap	
A. Craigie	63.49	54.49	9.0	1	'B' SECTION
W. C. Scott	65.43	54.58	10.45	2	
T. ap Rhys	58.44	56.44	2.0	3	
H. Boorman	62.53	56.53	6.0	4	
F. Rhodes	72.58	58.28	14.30	5	
T. Ashe	71.34	62.34	9.0	6	
C. Peach	79.7	68.52	10.15	7	
T. Rouse	63.24	54.39	8.45	1	'A' SECTION
W. T. Scott	62.42	54.42	8.0	2	
S. Dyer	63.22	55.22	8.0	3	
J. Jerome	58.50	55.50	3.0	4	
G. Fallowfield	60.40	55.55	4.45	5	
H. Giles	64.18	56.18	8.0	6	
J. Coupland	65.3	58.3	7.0	7	
R. J. Williams	68.26	59.11	9.15	8	
W. Trott	65.0	60.45	4.15	9	

takes Fastest Time Prize.

takes Third Prize

Fastest Time

"In Memory"

PRIVATE WILLIAM FITCHIE
(1/4th Kings Own Royal Lancs Regiment)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of W. Fitchie, of Penwortham.

Enlisting in September, 1914, he was wounded at Givenchy in March, 1918, receiving wounds in head and right arm. Blinded as a result, he came to St. Dunstan's at the end of that year. On account of ill-health, however, he was never able to do any strenuous work and carried on sometimes with a little poultry keeping and wool rug making as hobbies. His condition became much worse, however, and he was admitted to hospital some months before his death, which occurred on November 23rd.

He was accorded a military funeral, sixteen men from the East Lancashire Regiment escorting the coffin, which was draped with the Union Jack. A volley of three shots was fired over the grave before the sounding of the Last Post. Two St. Dunstaners from Preston, C. Porter and E. Lupton, attended the funeral and among the many wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his colleagues at St. Dunstan's.

Fitchie leaves a widow and five children to mourn his loss, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy. His wife had devotedly nursed him for twenty years.

LANCE-CORPORAL WILLIAM DYKES
(West Yorks Regiment)

WE deeply regret to report the death of W. Dykes, of Cudworth.

Although discharged from the Army in July, 1918, after three years' service, he did not come under our care until August, 1937, when his sight had failed as a result of severe gassing. He was in very bad health, but always hopeful of coming to St. Dunstan's for training, he entered hospital for further treatment. His condition, however, became worse and he died at his home on November 26th.

Members of the Cudworth British Legion, of which Dykes was for some time secretary, were bearers at the funeral. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and a bugler sounded the Last Post.

In his youth, Dykes had been a well-known amateur footballer and counted a number of professional footballers among his friends. A wreath from his old friend, Mr. James Seed, and the Directors of Charlton Athletic Club was among the many flowers. A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, who has given him every possible care in his long illness, and to his two children.

PRIVATE JOHN BALL
(West Riding Regiment)

WITH deepest regret we record the death of J. Ball of Lupset.

An old soldier, who had served in the South African War, he re-enlisted in July, 1916, and served two years as a result of which his sight was severely damaged. His age, however made him none too fit for training, but he learned occupational work and was set up in a business. This has been a real interest to him, in spite of indifferent health, right up to within a few days of his death, which took place in hospital after an operation on November 30th.

A wreath was sent from London from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family in their second loss. Mrs. Ball only died a few months ago.

TROOPER WILFRED BIRCH
(1st Life Guards)

IT is with deepest regret that we announce the death of our telephonist, W. Birch, of Fulham.

Birch was admitted to St. Dunstan's in January, 1921, when he was trained as a telephone operator and worked in that capacity right up to the time of his illness. When it was seen that he was not at all well, he was prevailed upon to have a convalescent holiday at the new Brighton Home, but had only been there a short time when it was found necessary to admit him to hospital and he died shortly afterwards.

The funeral took place three days later at Brighton Cemetery and was attended by many of his St. Dunstan's comrades, and a large number of friends from London including a representative of his old regiment, the 1st Life Guards. Matron Boyd-Rochfort, Sister Peacock, and Sister McCarthy, were also present. There were many wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's colleagues.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Birch and her three sons in their great loss.

Births

JUDD.—To the wife of W. Judd, of Hayes, on December 11th, a son.

MAY.—To the wife of H. May, of Redruth, on September 21st, a daughter.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 248.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

JANUARY, 1939

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Christmas Cards

YOU will think it curious that I should write a note on Christmas cards for you to read so late in January, but I receive several thousands of them, and some time elapses before I can set aside two or three hours in the evening or a week-end to look at and appreciate them all. Several thousand Christmas cards—what a flood of goodwill towards St. Dunstan's this represents!

The receipt of a Christmas card causes two distinct reactions. There is the card itself, which may be more or less beautiful and interesting, and there is the thought or recollection that it stimulates. Probably the seeing person pays more attention to the card itself; his first reaction is to what he sees. I am more interested in the thought and memories, and will jot down some of them, not in any special order, but just as we go along.

Here is the biggest card of all; unbelievably big—more than a foot square. It comes from an American. I entertained him in the House of Commons years ago, and he entertained me in America. He subsequently sent a big subscription to St. Dunstan's—big card, big subscription. He is a big manufacturer of toilet preparations, face cream, and so on, and a very wealthy man. Just before our ship left New York two porters came down the gang-plank with an enormous box of beauty preparations for Lady Fraser. She does not use much, so they lasted nearly a year. Charming people the Americans—they do everything on a grand scale. But this line of thought must stop. What is the next one? A card from a St. Dunstaner and his family; he is a sailor living in Devon. Not many sailors were blinded, or wounded for that matter. In the navy it is so often all or nothing. Fine fellows, sailors.

Here is one from Australia. Must be very hot there, midsummer in fact. I wonder if they eat Christmas pudding at midsummer? I was there four years ago at Armistice time. They asked me to broadcast to England a description of the unveiling of their war memorial at Melbourne. I remember, after a long and tiring day of public ceremonial, going to the Australian Broadcasting Commission's studio at three in the morning, or some other frightful time. I wonder how it came across? As I mentioned last month, I have received a great many cards from Australia and New Zealand by air-mail; they seem much nearer than they were in years gone by.

Here is one from the Postmaster General. It is the standard one which I suppose he sends to thousands of people in and outside the Post Office, but he has signed it personally. Nice of him. He is Major Tryon, who was Minister of Pensions for so many years; a good friend to St. Dunstan's.

An Irish St. Dunstaner comes next. Troublesome history, that of England and Ireland, but happier now. They have a warm and friendly way. Charming people, the Irish.

The head of the Rhodesian Railways sends a card. He was very good to me. Gave me a compartment with a shower bath next to it. How welcome it was when we were crossing the Kalahari Desert. An old traveller gave us the tip to put butter muslin over the windows to keep out the dust. We took several yards of it, but the dust got through just the same. That desert must have been rather like the one Alan Quartermaine and his companions crossed in "King Solomon's Mines." I have just listened to this wonderful tale on the Talking Book. It is one of the best books we have recorded.

Here is a card from one of the first St. Dunstaners. My wife remembers him at the old House. Must have been about Christmas 1915, twenty-three years ago. What a long time! And here is one from the Canadian High Commissioner in London. He entertained a number of Dominion St. Dunstaners from Canada who had come over to the unveiling of their war memorial at Vimy Ridge. Ian Hay was there and took us to his play "The Frog."

One of our Social Visitors is next. Wonderful ladies these, visiting St. Dunstaners all over the country, bringing comfort and help to many homes. Here is one from Germany. Cannot make head or tail of it. How ignorant we English are. We ought to speak and read languages better, but it comes from Hamburg so I know who it is from; a German blinded officer and his family. They visited us a year or two ago on a good-will mission. I wonder if the influence of those in Germany and Britain who want peace will prevail in 1939?

There is braille on this card: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." This St. Dunstaner has written the braille on an ordinary Christmas card and has put a fancy border round the edge. Very ingenious of him. There are three kisses on the next one, which comes from a little orphan of one of our St. Dunstan's comrades. There are 161 orphans under St. Dunstan's care. We look after them and see that they get a start in life.

Here is one from the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. My mind goes back to the war years when the young Prince of Wales came to St. Dunstan's, and I recall a dozen or more occasions upon which, during H.R.H.'s travels throughout the Empire, he took special interest in St. Dunstaners whom he met.

Next is one from Mafeking, South Africa. Only the oldest amongst us can remember the Siege of Mafeking and Baden-Powell. It makes me think of my childhood's days which I spent in South Africa, not in Mafeking it is true, but in Johannesburg.

Here is one from a masseur. I note that this one, like many others from masseurs, is formal, neat and printed specially. No doubt they use them as well for friends as for patients and doctors. Very wise. Now one from a Good Companion at Brighton. St. Dunstan's has made nearly three hundred new friends through this corps who are giving most valuable help at the new Home. 1938 will be memorable for the starting of that beautiful place.

And so they go on, from old constituents of mine, from old members of the staff of St. Dunstan's, from relations and friends I have not seen for years, from the captain of a ship with whom I have travelled, from a farmer in one of the Dominions with whom I had a glorious ride over his thousands of acres, from business friends, B.B.C., British Legion and N.I.B. people, M.P.s and Ministers, from Welsh valleys, from Belfast, from the Highlands, from Canada, from every part of the British Empire and from a hundred places outside it wherever St. Dunstan's has friends, and from St. Dunstaners themselves and other blind men and women all over the world. Many are sent to me personally, many as Chairman. I value these cards and thank the senders for their thoughtfulness and good-will.

IAN FRASER.

R.A.O.B. News

Congratulations to S. C. Loram, of Brixham, who has been elected Deputy Provincial Grand Primo for 1939 for the Brixham and Dartmouth Province.

Honour

W. Shakspeare, of Birmingham, has again been elected President of his local branch of the National Federation of Newsagents—"the right man for the right job" said the Branch members.

Brighton News

1939 will long be remembered by those who came to Brighton for the Christmas holiday, not only for its unprecedented weather—this only made us appreciate all the more the warmth, comfort and spaciousness of our new Home—but for the success which crowned the efforts of those responsible for the programme of festivities.

There was a good start on Christmas Eve with a dance in which everybody entered with a zest which augured well for what was to follow. On Christmas Day, about 130 sat down to a delicious dinner; after the usual toasts, Matron read telegrams of good wishes from old St. Dunstaners and friends, including one from Denny of South Africa and Phelps of Canada. Matron was then presented with a gold whistle from the Boys, which she will use when wishing to make any announcements. Everybody remained at home in the evening for the programme of Christmas games which caused great amusement, especially the one for the Dunmow Flitch which was won by Mr. and Mrs. Jolly—Mr. "H", who was the judge, caused roars of laughter by his many humorous questions, as did our old friend Bill Hawketts, who had us in fits of laughter with his Sergeant-major stunt. It was all great fun and everybody was ready for the refreshments which Matron very thoughtfully sent round about 10 o'clock.

Boxing Day saw an innovation which supplied a long-felt want; this took the form of a whist drive for the card players and dominoes for the rest; staff, wives and visitors were invited to compete for the many useful prizes. A very jolly jazz for which there were many spot prizes ended the day. A large and happy company of

dancers assembled for the New Year's Eve dance. Lady Fraser who, with Sir Ian, graced the party with their presence (who by the way, enjoyed the Lambeth Walk as much as any of us) presented many of the handsome prizes—money for the men and chocolates for the ladies. Sir Ian during the interval took the opportunity of addressing a few words of thanks on our behalf to all those who worked so hard to make our first Christmas at Ovingdean such a happy and memorable one.

The Winter Gardens were turned into a buffet, where very welcome refreshments were served. At 12 o'clock everybody joined hands to sing the Old Year out and the New Year in; so ended a holiday where a few short happy days had shut out the worries and cares of the outside world.

Things we would like to know—What did *big* Bob Young say after drinking two glasses of water and then being told there was free beer at the other side of the room—ask the Orderly? Also, if the gentleman who mistook our Home for the "Ocean View" Hotel, found his friend, Captain Macdonald?

OBSERVER.

Talking Books

I SOMETIMES hear that delay is experienced in receiving books from the Library. This is often due to readers omitting to fill in the Request Form, or only giving one or two titles. It would be as well to make a habit of always applying for at least three and, if possible, six titles. You would then be more likely to receive a book back without delay.

Do not forget that we like to hear your opinion of the books which are in the Library, and any suggestions you may have for further additions.

H. V. K.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE

A Letter from Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

How can I thank you all for the hundreds of lovely cards and calendars you so kindly sent me. I only wish time permitted me to write and thank each one of you, but I do appreciate so much your kind thought and your good wishes, as I did

the beautiful gold whistle which so many of you presented to me at the Christmas Dinner, and which I shall always treasure.

As I found a sugar pig amongst the wrappings in the box I can now proudly sign myself—"the Proprietor of the 'Pig & Whistle'," as well as your Matron!

WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD.

The New Brighton Home

THE SOCIAL SIDE

THE new Home at Ovingdean may not be actually in the heart of things as was West House, but its close association with the town of Brighton remains the same. Everything possible has been done to ensure that the social life of the Home shall go on as it has done for so long.

One of the first moves was the formation of the Corps of Good Companions. This was an appeal to the citizens of Brighton and Hove to provide "guides, philosophers, and friends" for the men of St. Dunstan's. There was a wonderful response—many townspeople, in fact, who have for many years taken us more or less for granted, have been delighted at the opportunity of doing something rather more tangible than merely escorting a St. Dunstaner across the road. The Corps is now in full swing; its members are doing splendidly in the way of giving our men walks and car drives, acting as escorts at cinemas, dances, making a hand at cards, and so on, and all are thoroughly enjoying getting to know St. Dunstaners. At the moment, we are well supplied with walkers especially, but we are hoping for some more members with cars for the spring.

Close contact with the town is maintained by St. Dunstan's own bus, already familiarly known as "Victor," which runs ten services daily from the Home to Brighton. Victor's average mileage per day is 87 miles and he carries 1,700 passengers a week. The 9 a.m. service has proved particularly useful in bringing Good Companions to the Home, thus ensuring plenty of escorts for walks, etc. Evening services, too, ensure that Companions are brought to the Home in comfortable time for dances and domino tournaments, and are taken back to Brighton when these are over. The most crowded service of the day is the 1.50 which is commonly known as the "theatre" bus. This takes all men and escorts into the cinemas in Brighton. The 4.15 has a double usefulness. It runs to Brighton Station, sometimes meeting large parties from London, and also collecting those who are at the pictures, to bring them home for tea. On Mondays and Thursdays, a special service called the "Hippodrome" bus fetches back those who have gone to

the Hippodrome by the earlier bus. The other three services are run at 11.10 a.m., 12.5 p.m. and 12.50 p.m., the latter again most useful to Good Companions returning to Brighton for lunch.

In addition, of course, the Southdown No. 4 bus passes the gates of our Home. There is an official stop near the pedestrian crossing and in connection with this stop there is an interesting story. The stop is just beyond a fare-stage from Brighton, and coming from the town, a St. Dunstaner would normally have to pay an extra penny to be taken the short distance to the point nearest our gate. While the bus company was perfectly willing for this charge to be waived, it was discovered that by doing so, they were contravening the regulations of the Traffic Commissioners. Thanks, however, to the good offices of our St. Dunstaner, W. T. Curtis-Willson, and the Southdown Bus Co., which went to the trouble of making a special application to the Traffic Commissioners, St. Dunstaners may now be carried the extra distance without payment of the extra fare. St. Dunstan's is most grateful to the bus company and to Curtis-Willson for their good services on our behalf.

There is one form of transport which must not be forgotten when we are talking of social services. That is "Rex", the utility car. His duties are legion. He has seating capacity for seven, and when necessary, the back seat can be removed and a chair wheeled up the ramp, which is specially carried for this purpose. The invalid thus travels in perfect comfort, without the exertion of being removed from his chair. This also applies to a stretcher case. Recently Rex made a journey of fifty-seven miles with an invalid just discharged from hospital. The patient arrived at his destination quite unexhausted, and full of praise for the warmth and comfort of the journey.

Indispensable

We may live without books—what is knowledge but grieving?

We may live without hope—what is hope but deceiving?

We may live without love—what is passion but pining?

But where is the man who can live without dining?

OWEN MEREDITH.

Competition Corner

PRACTICALLY every competitor in last month's competition managed to find a sentence of eight words from the given sentence. The exceptions were: R. J. Vine, of West Ealing, and P. S. Sumner, of Worcester, who ingeniously made ten words. The first prize of one guinea has therefore been divided between them; as there were so many qualified for the "two next best," the two consolation prizes have been held over.

Vine's sentence was: "So let us and Dr. St. Tuck all go on."

Sumner's entry was: "A gent on Lock Rd. sold us at Lu St."

THIS MONTH'S COMPETITION

We have found sentences made from a sentence. The prize of 10s. 6d. this month will go to the competitor who makes the longest sentence from one word—POSSIBILITIES. Each letter must, of course, only be used the number of times it appears here. Closing date: February 6th.

Physical Training at Home

APPENDED below is Table II of the Physical Training programme, which shows a slight progression of effort on Table I which, by the way, I sincerely hope has served a good purpose if only in helping to throw some of the responsibility upon the top instead of the lower waistcoat button.

Should any difficulty be found with the detail of the exercises, I will be only too pleased to answer any questions if you will send them along to the Sports Office at Headquarters.

J. D.

Table II

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Feet astride—arms sideways stretch.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head bending backward with fingers stretching.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms bend. Arms upward stretch.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Hips Firm. Feet sideways place. Trunk turning.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Hips Firm. Feet full open. Heels raising and knees full bending.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Balance Ex.*—Hips Firm. Knee raising.
- (7) *Lateral Ex.*—Hips Firm. Foot sideways place. Trunk bending sideways.
- (8) *Abdominal Ex.*—On the hands.
- (9) *Dorsal Ex.*—Hips Firm. Foot sideways place. Trunk bending forward and downward.
- (10) *Marching Ex.*—Alternate heel raising with arm backward and forward movement.
- (11) *Final Ex.*—Arms raising forward and upward, lowering sideways and downwards with breathing.

INSTRUCTIONS.

- (1) From position of Attention, carry left foot off. Arms bend. Then right foot off and arms sideways stretch. Left foot in and arms bend, and right foot in with arms downward stretch. Repeat six times.
- (2) Attention. Keep chin in, stretch fingers down as head goes back and lightly close fingers as head comes erect.
- (3) Force the hands as high as possible, width of shoulders apart, palms turned inward. Important keep rest of body in erect position of attention.
- (4) Hips kept to the front. Upper part of body turned as far as possible to left (or right). Head and arms in same relative position all the time.
- (5) Head and body perfectly upright when going down and return to well up on the toes position, then gently heels lower.
- (6) As before in Table I.
- (7) Do not let head fall to side inclined.
- (8) Full knees bend. Hands on ground, width of shoulders apart, elbows inside knees, arms straight and nearly vertical, transfer weight of body on to hands and shoot legs straight to the rear, body straight as at attention. Repeat six times.
- (9) From position of trunk forward bend, trunk bending downwards. Keep back as straight as possible and do not let head fall forward. Keep chin in.
- (10) Intensify the same exercise as in Table I by quicker raising and lowering of heels combined with strong backward and forward movement of shortened arms.
- (11) Good deep breathing as you raise arms forward and upward and exhale as you lower them sideways and downwards.

Accidents outside Brighton Home

EARLY in January two unfortunate accidents occurred on the main road from Brighton to Rottingdean near our new Convalescent Home. On January 1st, Freddie Winter, a St. Dunstan's masseur, was crossing the road with two other St. Dunstaners, F. King and J. L. Brooke, one of them having fair guiding sight. Although they were all holding arms, Winter must have been a few inches behind the other two, for he alone was hurt. He was knocked down and his leg broken in two places. Happily it was a simple fracture and it is healing quickly and well.

The second accident occurred on the night of January 7th. Seven St. Dunstaners, A. Cooke, A. Forster, E. Taggart, A. Wilkins, C. Chivers, J. Power and G. Power, got off the public bus at the pedestrian crossing. Two sighted people, Mr. and Mrs. Graves, got off at the same time and offered to help the blind men across. Mr. Graves took the first party consisting of Cooke, Forster, Taggart, Wilkins and Chivers. Mrs. Graves followed with J. Power and G. Power. Mr. Graves says he saw the lights of a car over the top of the hill coming from Brighton. This must have been three hundred yards away, and so there seemed to be plenty of time to cross. When, however, they were a few feet away from the opposite pavement, the car touched Chivers and Cooke, knocking them over. Chivers received a cut on his arm which had to be stitched, and bruises on his left hip and thigh; Cooke received bruises on his leg.

Directly the car touched these men, it swerved to the right, and in doing so, collided with J. Power who was being guided by Mrs. Graves. He, too, was knocked down and received bruises on his leg, face and hands.

Sir Ian Fraser, our Chairman, sent the following message to the men at the Brighton Home the next day:

"I share with all of you our deep regret for the accidents which have occurred recently on the sea road. The danger of this crossing has been so much talked about that it is, I am sure, present in everybody's minds, but we will do everything we can to be certain that all men who come to the Home for the first time are warned about it.

I am sure no one in St. Dunstan's would think that we had neglected this matter, but I would like you to know the facts. Long before the accidents, indeed before the first man entered the new Home, I had given personal attention to this matter and had made special representations to the Brighton Corporation and the Ministry of Transport with a view to securing the best possible advice. As a result the Belisha Beacon was erected at our request, and it was decided to have big Notice Boards each side of the crossing, and to have them lighted. All this was agreed to weeks ago. We have repeatedly urged the Corporation by interview and letter to get on with the job. We again communicated with them at the end of last week, and are pressing the matter forward at the moment. Meantime let me again remind my friends to exercise the greatest caution on this crossing. The Commandant of the Home has received instructions to try and rearrange the journeys of our own bus, so that it can be available at the right time to return from Rottingdean and thus avoid men coming by the ordinary transport.

St. Dunstan's will give the fullest legal help possible to those who have been injured.

You will all, I know, join in expressing our thankfulness that the accidents, bad as they were, were no worse, and in wishing our comrades who have been hurt a quick recovery and the best of luck."

It is understood that the delay in lighting the notice boards was due to the fact that a cable had to be brought some distance, but we are glad to say that the Brighton Corporation, on receiving further representations from St. Dunstan's, have erected temporary lighting.

Sir Ian wishes it to be known, however, that even when the pedestrian crossing notice boards are fully lighted, this must still be regarded as a dangerous crossing, and the utmost care must be exercised by St. Dunstaners and their escorts.

The latest news received by telephone as we go to Press is that Winter, who is still in the Royal Sussex Hospital, is going on well; Chivers is up and about again, much improved, and will have gone home again by the time the REVIEW is in print; Cooke was not seriously injured and is recovering from his unpleasant experience; and J. Power, steadily improving, is now able to get about in a chair.

"Merrie England"

St. Dunstaners are invited to a performance of "Merrie England" to be given by the Central London Choral and Orchestral Society at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, February 4th, at 7.30 p.m.

Anyone wishing to attend, with escort, can obtain tickets by applying as soon as possible to the Sports Office. Latest date for applications, January 24th.

"Boiling it Down"

The verses in last month's REVIEW inspired W. Shayler, of Liverpool, to boil down his contribution with a vengeance.

On a piece of notepaper cut down to three inches, this is what he sent us:—

Liverpool,
December 28th, 1938

To the Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

Subject: The new Home at Ovingdean.
"Chef d'oeuvre."*

WILLIAM SHAYLER.

*A masterpiece.

The Attack

THE breathless silence of the last few seconds that night was broken by a sudden Ping! Thud!—and the small band of gallant men ducked down like a flash. All had been expectant, and were on the qui vive, ready to spring forward and settle the score, when that shot had whizzed through the air, but keen and bold as they may be, the ring of that shot echoing through the night, had halted them. All had seen service in the first Battle at Ypres, and knew before taking this on, that their objective, immediately facing them was wired around, and that the other side would be cleverly concealed, but it mattered not, for to them it was all in the game. It would be a waste of whispered words to have sent around such a message as "mind the wire", or even to "mind the holes", these latter being too numerous within the circle of their objective, but they did not remain in that position long. Barely had the thud died down, ere they leaped forward together obsessed only by the thoughts of the honour of restoring (after having been hurled back by the wire) the dart! Lowestoft.

R. Z. H.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Football

THE Arsenal F.C. have sent us along an allotment of matches for 1939. They regret they are unable to send us dates for matches earlier in the year owing to Cup Ties.

The dates they have given us are:

March 18th v Liverpool
April 1st v Middlesbrough
April 15th v Manchester United

St. Dunstaners wishing to attend these matches should apply to the Sports Office for tickets when a ballot will be made if necessary.

Bridge Meeting

A meeting of bridge competitors and enthusiasts will be held on Friday, February 10th, at 7.15, in the Lounge.

Miss Lester's Concert

Miss Lester's Tuesday night concert will be held at Headquarters on March 14th at 8 o'clock.

Other Tuesday night arrangements:—

Feb. 7th: Dance.

Feb. 14th: Miss Zucker's concert.

Brighton

THE last sports meeting of the Old Year was very well attended at the new Home and a pleasant evening's entertainment was enjoyed by all.

Chair prizes (one to each table) were very kindly given by Matron, Mrs. Broughton and Miss Rayson, and all present showed their appreciation of the extra prizes in no uncertain manner.

May we remind sportsmen of the promise to let Miss Peacock have a postcard if they are attending sports, to enable her to prepare sufficient food supplies for the evening.

The next meeting of the Brighton Club will be held on Wednesday, February 15th.

A Golden Wedding

J. J. Knights, of Romford, tells us that his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Knights, of Felixstowe, celebrated their golden wedding on December 24th.

"In Memory"

CONDUCTOR E. W. BAILEY

(*South African Transports and Remounts*)

WE have heard with deep regret of the death of E. W. Bailey, of Brackenfel, Cape, South Africa.

Bailey was an old soldier—he settled in South Africa fifty years ago from Dublin; he served during the whole of the Anglo-Boer War for almost three years in South-West and East Africa. His sight became affected during an illness whilst on active service; he did not go blind until 1930, when he was admitted to the benefits of St. Dunstan's in South Africa.

His health has been indifferent for some years and had been causing anxiety to his friends for the past few months. He passed away suddenly at his home.

He was unmarried and had no relatives. Mrs. Chadwick Bates attended the funeral, accompanied by two St. Dunstaners, C. W. S. van Blerk and T. A. Sattary, and Mrs. van Blerk. Wreaths were sent from his fellow St. Dunstaners in South Africa, from the Chairman and Members of St. Dunstan's Committee and Mrs. Chadwick Bates.

REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR CHARLES ERNEST HOLT

(*Cheshire Regiment*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of C. E. Holt, of Macclesfield, which occurred on Christmas Day.

Holt was gassed and wounded at Vimy Ridge in May, 1915, but although he was so severely injured and subsequently became an invalid, the condition of his sight did not necessitate his coming to St. Dunstan's until 1935. His health prevented him undergoing any training, but he derived a great deal of interest from his business—he was licensee of a public house.

On Christmas Eve he was in his usual good spirits but the next morning when Mrs. Holt took him a cup of tea, she found him lying on his left side, as though asleep, but he had passed away.

A wreath in the form of our badge from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the many flowers at the funeral.

Holt leaves a widow and three children to mourn his loss, to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

PRIVATE WALTER KNOX

(*10th Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders*)

IT is with deep regret that we record the death of W. Knox, of London, N.W.1.

This St. Dunstaner was wounded in France in 1918 as a result of which he lost one eye and most of the sight in the other eye. He then came to St. Dunstan's for training in basket-making, but a little later on, gave this up and took up telephone operating at which he worked for some years. Latterly his health had not been good, although he was still able to get about and pay frequent visits to Headquarters. On the afternoon of December 9th, while crossing the Outer Circle, he was knocked down by a taxi cab. He was admitted to hospital but he died there the following day.

The funeral took place a few days later at St. Pancras Cemetery, and was attended by Knox's two sisters and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Askew, with whom he had been living, and various other friends including three St. Dunstan's men and their escorts. A wreath in the form of our badge was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Knox's relatives and friends.

Birth

CULSHAW—To the wife of T. Culshaw, of Brighton, on December 31st, a daughter—Adeline Josephine Brenda.

Marriages

PERRETT—PEACOCK.—On December 10th, at Aberdare, Wales, C. F. Perrett, of Devizes, to Miss Peacock.

SUGDEN—CROPPER.—On September 7th, 1938, Arthur Sugden, of Calgary, Alta., Canada, to Miss Kathleen Cropper.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives who have cele-

brated their silver wedding recently, or will do so very soon: Mr. and Mrs. G. Hill, of Gloucester, December 20th; Mr. and Mrs. J. Alcott, of Shoreham-by-Sea, December 20th; Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Simmons, of Northampton, December 27th; Mr. and Mrs. W. Duxbury, of Cheadle Hulme, January 3rd; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hopper, of Bridlington, January 5th; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Smith, of Bury St. Edmunds, January 18th; and Mr. and Mrs. G. Brewer, of Illogan, Cornwall, February 1st.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 249.—VOLUME XXIII [New Series]

FEBRUARY, 1939

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

EDITORIAL

LOOKING BACK

THE other day I had occasion to look through some old REVIEWS—those for January and February, 1919, to be exact. Even to one who did not have the privilege of knowing St. Dunstan's in those early days they made absorbing reading. To most of you, they would have recalled happy memories.

Sir Arthur at that time was in America but there was a message from him. You may remember it. He had visited the principal cities of Canada and the U.S.A., and he wrote: "You fellows should, every one of you, be proud of the fact that the example which you have set and are setting is going to prove of untold benefit to others who, like you, have lost their sight, but who, unlike you, have in the past not received a full opportunity of regaining it."

W. J. Hopper must have been one of the first to realize the possibilities of a guide dog. In January, 1919, he was experimenting with a thoroughbred Newfoundland, with considerable success.

The Christmas entertainment had taken place a few weeks before and was reported in the January number. Queen Alexandra, our Patron, had been present. The *Daily Telegraph* described it as "a capital entertainment. . . . Sightless soldiers being happily of a cheery disposition, it was only natural that the programme should have been of the lightest pattern, providing a jolly blend of the gay and sentimental, the former predominating, with an inevitable sprinkling of ragtime." Strathmore, Westall, Doyle, Trott, Downs, Henshaw, Betambeau, Hardy—these were a few of the names on the programme.

A Discussion Club was a feature of life at St. Dunstan's in those days. Their subjects were certainly varied. "Is the Competitive System the best for the Community?" they asked in January, and "What About Total Prohibition?" they were rash enough to demand a few weeks later. In between, Mr. Prady spoke on "Donkeys," Mr. H. B. Irving gave a lecture on "Shakespeare's Criminals," and Capt. Russell Roberts gave an account of his African big-game hunting experiences.

It was the practice then to reprint in full letters from men all over the world. That, of course, is not possible now since our "family" has grown to such proportions, but we are no less anxious for news of our men. The REVIEW is the chief medium by which St. Dunstaners may hear of one another, but unless we have that news, we cannot pass it on. Think it over and let us hear from you.

SUPPLEMENTS

Our Poultry and Gardening Supplements are proving very popular. Mr. D. W. Ferguson, who is in charge of the Country Life Section at Headquarters, is the editor, and he welcomes comments and criticisms. In particular, he would appreciate useful hints from other gardeners, so that they can be passed on.

A St. Dunstaner in America

MANY St. Dunstaners will remember the prominence given in the Press to the visit of W. H. Oxenham, of Hove, to the United States at the invitation of the famous cartoonist, Mr. Robert Ripley.

We have asked our St. Dunstaner to give us his impressions of his visits across the Atlantic. Here they are.

"I have in the last few years had the pleasure of travelling in most parts of the world but the most outstanding trip was my last one, which was to America and Canada. The opportunity came my way of going to America as the guest of Mr. Robert Ripley, the world-famous cartoonist, who is also one of the most popular broadcasters in America. His programme, 'Believe it or not,' is claimed to have one of the largest listening audiences in the world. I was invited to go to America to play some exhibition golf and to broadcast.

"I sailed on the *Europa* and had a very pleasant journey across. When we arrived in New York a cutter came alongside and a crowd of reporters and photographers came on board. That evening the papers announced with photographs and story, 'Blind British golfer arrives.' The American people never do things by halves.

"Then I had a wonderful surprise. My two brothers, whom I had not met for twenty-nine years, had motored from Canada to meet me. My pleasure at seeing them so unexpectedly, coupled with the enthusiastic welcome I had received from so many Americans and the Press, simply took my breath away. My feelings were indescribable.

"During my stay in New York I was taken down to Radio City with Mr. Ripley where the whole technique of broadcasting was explained by a guide who was specially told off to conduct our party which comprised my wife, my eldest son, Lawrence, and my chauffeur, who acts as my caddie. Radio City is the largest broadcasting station in the world. The building is 75 storeys high.

"It had been arranged that I should go to Cleveland for the golf exhibition and United Airways of America very kindly placed an air liner at my party's disposal if I wanted it. I had never flown in my life and I gladly accepted the invitation. We flew in a 21-seater Douglas machine to

Cleveland which was some 700 miles away. We had lunch in the plane at 11,000 feet travelling at 215 miles an hour. It was a wonderful experience.

"At the golf course where I was to play, one of the holes was floodlit. The hole was 225 yards and was a bogey 3. It was arranged that as I played the hole it would be broadcast throughout America by well-known golf champions who would be present.

I played this hole twice during the evening—at 7.30 and at 10.30—and on both occasions I did it in four. I also opened the Cleveland Open Championship which was being held that week and I came into contact with most of the eminent golfers including the American and Canadian champions. At a luncheon held for me at the Rotary Club, Cleveland, the key of the city was presented to me by the Mayor. When I stood up to respond, I felt rather as I had done on my arrival—completely overcome.

"I found the people of America wonderfully hospitable, and their hospitality was absolutely spontaneous.

"I left Cleveland and flew back to New York. Then I went to Canada where I stayed with my two brothers and their wives.

"I came back to New York for more sight-seeing. Then I returned in the most marvellous boat in the world, the *Queen Mary*, after a holiday which will always be in my memory as the most wonderful experience, and the Americans the most wonderful people."

Chrysanthemum Growing

T. Cheal, of Saltford, has had a wonderful display of chrysanthemums this year. One of his varieties was the Blanche Poitevine (white) and he had between sixty and seventy blooms from one plant of this kind. In a most interesting letter to *Popular Gardening* (which, incidentally, won a prize of 7s. 6d.), Mrs. Cheal wrote: "After blooming, the plants are stood in a cold frame, and cuttings, with roots attached, if possible, are taken in March. The plants are set out of doors towards the end of April, lifted early in September and set in 6-inch or 8-inch pots according to size. Those in the smaller pots carry about twenty good blooms. Some disbudding is necessary."

Letters to the Editor

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.
DEAR SIR,

Some months ago I had a chat with Sir Ian on the question of a bowling green for the men at the new Home. He thought it would be a very good idea to have one if sufficient numbers were obtained to warrant the taking up of such an amount of space necessary for the project. He very kindly suggested therefore, that I should write to the *Review* so that the idea could be put before St. Dunstaners so that they may—if they approve of the idea—write in and back it up.

I realize of course there is a great deal of skill needed to play the game efficiently, but I have found myself, that if you have handled woods before, it is not impossible by any means to get a great deal of enjoyment out of it as far as we are concerned. At Southsea, with a friend of mine, I played two men from Byfleet and we beat them by eleven shots to five, my contribution being five shots. With a little guidance from a sighted person you very soon get your direction and weight of throw. I have friends who are quite willing to come along and give a hand in a bit of training, and I am sure with the close proximity of the Rottingdean Bowling Club we can secure help in this matter and also in the arranging of matches between ourselves and outsiders. This game is not only good for the social side of St. Dunstan's but you can get a good deal of walking out of it, and this will be most beneficial for those who are older than myself who do not care to go for long tramps.

There are many St. Dunstaners who play at darts, throwing the football, skittles, and various other games where aim and a certain amount of skill is required, and I ask them, along with others who may find the game would suit them, to write in and say so at their earliest convenience, for I am sure that if there is a sufficient number of men desirous of the new Home possessing a bowling green Sir Ian would give the scheme favourable consideration.

Yours sincerely,
Harrington, N.4. EDWARD SLAUGHTER.

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.
DEAR SIR,

I was very interested to see in the *REVIEW* that Mrs. Condon was President of the Women's Institute in her district, and I wish her every good wish in her second year of office.

I have been a member of our Women's Institute since it first started twelve years ago. I have served on the Committee several times, and I am this year going to be Vice-President.

Yours sincerely,
Thetford. (Mrs.) B. HAMILTON.

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,
DEAR SIR,

My two boys are very interested in stamp collecting and I am sure there must be lots of children of our fellows who may also be so interested.

As our family is flung over the four corners of the earth we might be able to form a "Stamp Exchange" in some way or another.

May I suggest that those who are interested send in their names and addresses? We could then exchange "sheets of swaps" from which we could then replace them with some "not on the sheet."

Yours sincerely,
Westcliff-on-Sea. J. S. WHITELAM.

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.
DEAR SIR,

I should like, through the columns of the *REVIEW*, to obtain the views of other St. Dunstaners as to the advisability and possibility of establishing a Club for the exclusive use of St. Dunstaners, in or passing through London. I would suggest it be run on the following general lines:

1. That it should be residential.
2. That it should be fully licensed.
3. That it should be made self-supporting by membership subscription, purchases, etc.

This should make an interesting discussion through the columns of the *REVIEW*.

Yours sincerely,
Wandsworth. F. W. TARRY.

About St. Dunstaners

W. Allen, of Torrisholme, unveiled the War memorial tablet of his old school, Darwen Grammar School, on January 14th. Old students travelled from all parts of Lancashire for the ceremony.

☆ ☆ ☆

Amongst St. Dunstaners who hold important offices is Dennis Pettit, of Northampton, who has been a member of Toc H for about thirteen years, during the past six of which he has been Northampton Branch Chairman, and for the past two years, Northampton District Chairman. He feels that Toc H is one of the few worth-while things in this world and can commend it to any of his fellow-St. Dunstaners.

☆ ☆ ☆

A. Martin, of Peacehaven, entertained more than one hundred and fifty children at a British Legion Party on February 1st. As "Will Hay" he kept them happily amused with games, competitions, and a display of ventriloquism. The *Brighton and Hove Herald* referring to the fact that Martin was once connected with the circus ring, wrote: "Mr. Martin found it quite like old circus days taming the 'lions' at the Legion Party. The youngsters thoroughly appreciated being kept in order by such an entertaining 'ringmaster'."

The New Brighton Home

THE DORMITORIES

FROM the pile of correspondence we have received from St. Dunstaners regarding the new Brighton Home, the verdict is unanimous on the subject of the sleeping arrangements—"no complaints."

Every dormitory at the Ovingdean Home is entered by two sets of doors—the outer doors leading from the landing (edged with thick rubber tubing to ensure quiet and safety), and inner doors leading direct to the dormitory. In the little corridor thus formed, there is a room on the right with lavatories and bath; the other, on the opposite side is the "boot-room."

Deep, wide windows run from end to end of the dormitories, taking up more than half of the wall space on either side. Light curtains and the very modern "accordion" type of blinds allow the greatest possible amount of light to enter. These blinds are rather like the old Venetian blinds but all the slats are adjustable so that any part of the blind may be raised or lowered according to the position of the sun.

The bedsteads are of cream and each has a Dunlopillo mattress and pillow. Each bed is covered by a red and blue blanket worked with St. Dunstan's badge, and has beside it a St. Dunstan's made rug, a stool and a waste-paper basket. The rugs are fixed to the floor by an ingenious press-stud device.

Behind every bed is a cased-in radiator, and every bed has its wireless headphones. The occupant can tune in to any of three programmes.

Beside every bed is a cabinet fitting. The upper half is a locker with a flap which comes down to form a desk or table. The lower half is for boots and towels, which are heated by the radiator already mentioned. Next to the cabinet fitting is a wardrobe, half of which is divided into shelves for small articles, leaving the remaining half for coats.

At the rear end of every dormitory is an orderly's room and an emergency staircase in the event of fire.

In the Sick Ward a bell-push is behind each bed. This rings in the orderly's room, and at the same time shows a light over the bed of the patient ringing it.

A Little Gardening Advice

offered by W. E. Brookes of Southampton, after reading last month's Gardening Supplement in the *Review*:

You have not as much time before you as you had in December. Dust everything you see with sulphur. Gather rotted cowdung, old tomato plants, putrid cucumber beds; take a coal-scuttle and a shovel and chase every horse you see, take the winnings home and mix with the other stuff you have collected. Put some guano on it and give it a healthy treat, then turn it over and leave it to mature. In the greenhouse: nurse your invalids, take care of the healthy, train the undisciplined, keep down the upstarts, restrain the wanderers—pinch them hard—bury the dead, and raise up a new generation with all your might and main. Don't dig the ground when it is sodden, or dry, or hard. Search for snails' night-clubs.

Think well what you mean to do next spring, get everything planned, observe in which department you are strongest; you possibly find it is your head. Soothe it. Discover your weakest part; you will probably find this at the mid-section, rear-rank. Improve this to the utmost, make it your war-horse, your charger, your shining beacon. Pile plenty of coal on the fire, and see that your weakest part is well protected. This is good gardening.

The Music Department

LITTLE is heard of the work of the Music Department of St. Dunstan's but most of our musical St. Dunstaners in the London area will think with pleasure of the help they have received from Mrs. Brancker, Mrs. Hodson (née McCall), Miss Deane, Miss Monro, and many others, at 60 Paddington Street.

The Department has been in existence now for very many years. One of its most successful ventures has been the formation of the St. Dunstan's Singers who, for fifteen years, have, as a choir, given concerts all over the country, and on several occasions have broadcast. Although they will not, in the future, appear as a choir, some of the members will continue to give concerts with Mrs. Hodson and Miss Monro, and of course, will remain active members of the Music Department.

Competition Corner

AFTER last month's *Review* had gone to press, it was discovered that R. J. Vine's entry in the December competition was not strictly in accordance with the published rules. He had included a word which was in the given sentence. The prizes were therefore adjusted, P. S. Sumner receiving a guinea, and Vine, whose entry made him the runner-up, a consolation prize of five shillings.

JANUARY COMPETITION RESULT

Ten St. Dunstaners made sentences of six words from the word "Possibilities." They were J. McFarlane, of Angus (*I slip, so be, tis I*), R. Warren, of Stratford (*It is I, so be slip*), T. Floyd, of Teignmouth (*So be I slip, I sit*), M. O. Anker, of Ealing (*I slip, so I be sit*), R. J. Vine, of Ealing (*I set, I slip, I sob*), O. Windridge, of Wigston Magna (*Be I so 'lit I slip?*), G. E. Wilkins, of Reading (*I slip*

so be, I sit), P. S. Sumner, of Worcester (*"I bet I slip," I S.O.S.*), Miss B. B. Simon, of Ruthin (*I slip, I sob, I set*), and E. J. Lloyd, of Cardiff (*I slip, so be, I sit*). Five shillings goes to each of them.

Some submitted entries with "words" which were not words at all. S.O.S. for example, could only be judged one word and not three as some claimed. However, congratulations to all competitors upon their ingenuity, and better luck next time.

A E D I C M L

From the letters above, make four different seven-letter words.

Ten and sixpence will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened. Closing date: March 6th.

Braille Competition Result

The competition for deaf St. Dunstan's men in the December issue of the *Review* was won by J. Dale, of Stoke-on-Trent, to whom a prize of 10s. 6d. has been sent.

Physical Training at Home

TABLE III of the Physical Training programme is published below—again a slight strengthening on Table II in the last issue of the *REVIEW*. In carrying out Exercise 8, Abdominal Exercise, care should be taken that the chair is quite firmly placed in the corner, and a square fronted chair is recommended.

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—foot placing sideways.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head bending backwards with fingers stretching.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms bend—arms forward stretch.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Arms bend—foot forward place—trunk turning.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—heels raising and knees bending quickly.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm—leg raising sideways.
- (7) *Lateral Ex.*—Hips firm—foot sideways place—trunk bending sideways quickly.
- (8) *Abdominal Ex.*—On the hands (on chair)—leg raising.
- (9) *Dorsal Ex.*—Arms bend—foot sideways place—trunk bending forward.
- (10) *Marching Ex.*—Hips firm—with knee raising mark time.
- (11) *Final Ex.*—(i) Heels raise and lower quickly. (ii) Arms raising forward and upwards, lowering sideways and downwards.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Carry left foot off 30 inches toe leading, lower heel, raise heel and bring foot into right foot. Repeat with right foot.
- (2) As before in Table II.
- (3) As before. *Important*—Do not move body when coming back to arms bend.
- (4) Turn from the hips above only towards forward leg.
- (5) (i) Raise on toes. (ii) Half knee bend. (iii) Up on toes again. (iv) Heels lower.
- (6) Raise leg as far as possible without disturbing the position of the body.
- (7) As before, only done quickly. Do not let head fall to side inclined.
- (8) Place a chair firmly in corner of room against the wall. Follow instructions for Ex. 8 last month, but instead of hands on ground, place hands on chair. At conclusion of last month's exercise, raise leg as high as possible, toe pointed. Do not alter position of body.
- (9) Force hands well back and keep chin in when bending forward.
- (10) Raise knee each time as high as possible.
- (11) As before in Table II.

Young St. Dunstaners

Jack, the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Martin, of Bray, has gained his A.I.C.M. Diploma for pianoforte playing.

☆ ☆ ☆

Hazel, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. T. Pearce, of Leighton Buzzard, has won a prize for not missing school once in three years. She was the only pupil to achieve the distinction.

☆ ☆ ☆

Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Cooke, of Wood Green, has passed the General Clerks' Examination of the Civil Service.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mavis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hazel, of Merton, has passed her Grade IV music examination with distinction.

☆ ☆ ☆

The three children of Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Waldin, of Winchester, are doing well. Sixteen year old David has obtained his School Certificate and hopes to go into a bank. John, who is thirteen, has won the school diving championship and swimming cup for his house (his rival in the diving competition was a boy of seventeen years of age), and Jean has passed a final examination qualifying her as a librarian.

☆ ☆ ☆

Graham, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Pettejohns, of Peckham Rye, has passed his examination, obtaining a credit in every subject.

☆ ☆ ☆

The eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, who last year passed the Higher School Certificate in English, History and Latin, was placed 18th out of three hundred and fifty candidates in the Army Entrance Examination, and was awarded an Army Council and also a Kitchener Scholarship at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

☆ ☆ ☆

The youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Radford, of Castle Cary, has passed her examination and received her certificate for the Royal College of Music.

☆ ☆ ☆

Nora Sebbage, daughter of our St. Dunstaner at Moulscombe, is a young St. Dunstaner who is an excellent swimmer. She recently received a Certificate from the Brighton Ladies' Swimming Club for her achievement in swimming from pier to pier at Brighton in 23 mins. 25 secs.

Pearl Yarwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Yarwood, of Manchester, continues to add to her dancing laurels. She has won the Carlotta Trophy of the National Association of Teachers of Dancing, and second place in the competition for the Eros Trophy, both held in London; she was also awarded the Grimshaw Trophy for the highest marks at the festival held at Belle Vue, Manchester.

☆ ☆ ☆

Joan, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Walch, of Bolton, has passed the Intermediate Class with honours, for the London College of Music. She had the highest marks in the district examination, securing 92 out of a possible 100. She wins a medal.

☆ ☆ ☆

Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Mitchell, of Leith, N.B., was married on the 31st January, to Samuel Hanna, of Belfast.

Derby Sweepstake, 1939

ONCE again we have pleasure in announcing our own Derby Sweepstake. This is the ninth year of this competition, and the number of tickets sold last year proves beyond doubt that it is as popular as ever.

The sweepstake is confined strictly to St. Dunstaners, and tickets will not on any account be issued to anyone else.

RULES.

1. The price of tickets is 2s. 6d. each.
2. The total amount subscribed will, with the exception of the actual cost of printing and postage involved, be distributed as follows:—
 - Fifty per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.
 - Twenty per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.
 - Ten per cent to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.
 - Twenty per cent to be equally divided among all those who hold tickets drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.
3. Application for tickets can be made at once and will be received up to the first post on **Monday, May 15th**. Every application must bear the name and address of the sender, and envelopes, which must be plainly marked "Derby Competition," must be sent to the REVIEW, St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Regent's Park, and not to any other department. Postal orders must be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed. Tickets will be despatched in rotation, and must be produced before payment of prize money is made.

Racing at Ovingdean

1 O'CLOCK — The DINNER STAKES

"THEY'RE OFF." The warning clang of the gong sounded clearly above the din and noise of the waiting crowd, and the expectant throng turned in one direction, heading for the rails. There was a large and very mixed field. A few appeared to be fit, some having only one sound leg; others, stout in the girth, suggested overweight, whilst most wore blinkers.

"Here they come!" As the field thundered along, hugging the rails the excitement grew more intense, and above the noise could be plainly heard the sniffing of nostrils and the clatter of plates. Nearing the bend, the field drew closer together and began to bunch ready to slip through—ready to take full advantage of an opening on the other side. On they tore, rounding Tattēham Corner at great speed and midst much bumping and boring. Weight told its tale and the lighter-weighted were forced well on to the rails till it seemed that an objection at the end would be inevitable.

Once clear the field opened out, the leaders forging ahead, the string following closely on their heels. After a few yards, a sharp turn to the left and they had entered the straight where the field straggled and began to drop out, some to right and some to left, to stand by their seats at the dinner tables—to await the whistle for an instantly hushed silence—very remarkable—for grace before the weigh-in commenced.

The race was over; dinners went rapidly into the frame, showing tribute to the two Ministers of our Interior.

R. Z. H.

A Useful Tip to Shopkeepers

There is no doubt that a number of shopkeepers find their shop windows getting very steamy at this time of the year; we hope that the following tip will help to remedy this nuisance:—

First clean the window, and then, before drying, go over again with a damp cloth well rubbed with ordinary soap, afterwards polishing with a dry cloth.

A "Doggy" Affair

G. S. Chappell, of Saltford, sends us the following, which, he says, actually happened to a friend of his.

A youth of seventeen had for several days and nights been driven nearly mad with toothache, and as he lay tossing in his bed, he decided to evacuate from the sheets, and advance to the dining-room.

The terrible commotion awakened his mother, who proceeded downstairs to investigate. On reaching the aforesaid room, she found Ronald dancing with tears in his eyes, and a pair of pinchers in his hand. His mother was told that he had been trying to remove the tooth with them. First of all with them cold which had made matters worse, and afterwards with them heated by the dying embers in the grate, and this made it "worse." Using her "motherly instincts" his mother persuaded him back to bed again with the promise that she would bring up an E.N.T. powder and a couple of aspirins.

The promise was carried out, the powder was given, and Ronald was instructed to take the aspirins later on if the powder did not take any effect. His mother retired to her room and was just about to occupy the space allotted to her in the bed by her husband when she casually read the printed matter on the wrapper which had contained the powder. Suddenly she shrieked "I've killed him, I've poisoned him." This melody rudely awakened her husband from his slumbers. "If you carry on like that," he said, "you will drive me mad." The next moment he was in hot pursuit of his wife who had rushed down to Ronald's bedroom, where his two brothers had also gathered. The victim asked what all the fuss was about and when told that he had been given a "Bob Martin's" condition powder in place of E.N.T., he replied: "Can't be helped now, the job is done, and it's a case of 'wait and see'."

FINALE. Party dismissed, leaving Ronald counting the minutes, and with one consolation, that he would not suffer from the effects of distemper.

News of Telephonists

Our best wishes to telephonists M. Doyle, W. Bishop, and S. Prideaux, who have started work.

Origins

Cackling. Hens cackle after laying an egg because their ancestors have done it for thousands of years. In the old jungle days wild fowls who were taking time out for laying an egg, signalled their whereabouts to the remainder of the wandering flock by cackling as soon as they laid an egg.

☆ ☆ ☆

Port wine, the vintage which took its name from the city of Oporto, Portugal, and in turn made that place famous, also gave the name "port" to the left side of ships, according to seafaring men. The port side, one explanation goes, is so called because it used to display a red lantern, the light of which had the colour of port wine.

☆ ☆ ☆

Blimp. During the World War the British Army's best non-rigid airships were referred to as the B-limp type of aircraft. Eventually the hyphen was eliminated.

☆ ☆ ☆

Quinine received its name from the Countess of Chinchon, a famous malaria sufferer who was cured by the use of quinine.

☆ ☆ ☆

"*Goat and Compasses*" on inn signs is a corruption of "God encompasseth us."

☆ ☆ ☆

We have recently passed the centenary of the *envelope*.

Up to a century ago messages and correspondence were written on one side of sheet of paper which was folded into a square and sealed.

It was a stationer in Paris who thought it would be much better and more economical to use both sides of the paper and enclose the folded sheet in a covering.

After much thought he designed the first envelope. At first a wafer of paste was used to seal it, but soon gummed flaps were introduced.

☆ ☆ ☆

Shire horse, on show recently at the Royal Agricultural Hall, has long held a high place in the esteem of English breeders.

Its ancestors were the great beasts that drew the ponderous war chariots of the Ancient Britons over the roughest roads (astonishing the Romans, who were used

to much smaller breeds), and later carried warriors whose armour weighed 30 stone or more.

The Shires obtained their name from Henry VIII, who, finding the breed declining, gave orders for special breeding in certain specified shires.

The Shire Horse Society was formed on July 11th, 1878, so last year was diamond jubilee year.

☆ ☆ ☆

Chop suey did not originate in China. When Li Hung Chang visited the United States in 1898, his chef prepared a concoction intended to appeal to both the American and the Oriental taste, which later became known as chop suey.

☆ ☆ ☆

"*Hobson's Choice*" comes from an ostler of that name, who hired his hacks as taxis hire to-day—front one or none.

☆ ☆ ☆

Barbers have a noble heritage. The early Romans erected a monument to the first of them. Shaving dates back to the Macedonian Conquest, when, according to Plutarch, King Philip wearied of seeing soldiers seized by their beards and run through with swords. Consequently he introduced shaving in his army as a protective measure. Shaving became the vogue thereafter.

Births

HORGAN.—To the wife of D. Horgan, of Cork, on January 26th, a daughter.

LOVETT.—To the wife of G. W. Lovett, of Sturminster Newton, on January 24th, a daughter.

Marriage

COOPER—LOVE.—On February 16th, at St. Nicholas, Linton, near Maidstone, V. A. Cooper, of Brighton, to Miss Edna Love.

Deaths

Our sincere sympathy is extended this month to the following:

BOWEN.—To R. W. Bowen, of Cape Town, South Africa, whose wife died in London on January 31st.

KEVILL.—To J. Kevill, of Manchester, whose wife has recently passed away.

MCCCLUSKEY.—To Mr. and Mrs. R. McCluskey of Crewe, whose twenty-seven years old son has died as the result of an operation. Their loss is particularly sad since this is the second son they have lost at that age.

When Smoking Was a Crime

Extracts from an article by Thomas Raleigh from the "Fact Digest" of New York.

AMERICA took to the pipe and cigar early—long before Columbus discovered America. Stone carvings of the ancient Mayan and Aztec civilisations in Central America show the deep religious veneration with which tobacco was held.

Columbus took some of the tobacco plants back to Spain with him as a curiosity. Rodrigo de Jerez, a member of his party, also as a curiosity, tried smoking a cigar on the main street of his home town of Ayamonte. He was promptly arrested, turned over to the Spanish Inquisition and spent several years in prison.

It was a hundred years before Europe smoked. Tobacco was looked upon as a medicine. Jean Nicot, a Frenchman, popularised it as an alleged cure for coughs and asthma. From Nicot came the word "nicotine."

England taught Europe to smoke. Contrary to the popular story, it was not Sir Walter Raleigh who introduced smoking to England. It was the British sea captains. Raleigh didn't learn to smoke until later, but it was he who saw the commercial possibilities of tobacco.

People collected in great crowds on the streets of London to see the strange spectacle of the British sea captains home from America strolling about and puffing. They had learned from the Indians. In a short time the "barbarous habit" became the mode in London.

It was not called "smoking," however. It was known as "drinking" tobacco, because the pipe was used principally, and it suggested the act of drinking the smoke.

The price of tobacco was extravagantly high. It was literally worth its weight in silver, a pound of tobacco being balanced against the weight of silver coins. In Virginia, which at one time was planted all in tobacco, it became so important that it took the place of money, wages and the price of goods being paid in bales of tobacco.

Pipes were rare and precious things. In the so-called *tobagies* in London—meeting-places resembling ordinary taverns—they were passed from hand to hand. Women smoked freely with the men.

By the seventeenth century the habit had spread to Holland, France, Germany and Austria and had penetrated into eastern Europe. Soldiers meeting in the Thirty Years War (1617-1648) in Germany carried the habit back to their native lands with them. Every war subsequently has been responsible for a remarkable increase in the use of the weed.

Attempts to cultivate the tobacco plant were made in all the countries which came to use the weed, but only in Turkey and the surrounding territory were the climate and soil receptive to the American plant. Many countries established a tobacco monopoly.

Portuguese sailors spread the tobacco habit to Japan, China, India and the Philippines. By the eighteenth century the whole world was smoking.

It was at the end of the eighteenth century that America perfected the cigar and it was introduced successfully in Europe. The cigarette followed, appearing in France in 1844. It was the French who popularised the habit of taking snuff. Nobles used it at court, considering it less "barbaric" than smoking.

The Crimean War (1856) gave the cigarette universal popularity. But opposition sprang up immediately. Anti-Cigarette Leagues were formed. In America the Women's Christian Temperance Union fought long and bitterly against the cigarette habit. At one time the sale of cigarettes was forbidden in no less than twelve American states.

The word cigarette is the diminutive of cigar. And cigar comes from the Spanish *cigarro*, meaning "little garden." That's what the Spanish called the rolled leaves they took from their *cigarrals*, or flower gardens, where they planted the first tobacco Columbus brought back from America.

The origin of the word tobacco is shrouded in mystery. Some claim it was derived from Tobasco in Mexico, where Cortez found much tobacco. Others say it is a corruption of the native name (tobak) the San Salvador Indians gave their pipes.

☆ ☆ ☆

HE that respects himself is safe from others; he wears a coat of mail that none can pierce.

—LONGFELLOW.

Bridge Tournament

BELOW is published the result Chart of the Bridge Tournament concluded on January 31st last. It will be noticed that a draw has been recorded for second place, but it has been decided to play a rubber to decide who shall be declared Second best pair to C. Gover and C. Thompson, to whom we offer our hearty congratulations on winning the first St. Dunstan's Tournament.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Fennell, of Tooting, who celebrated their silver wedding on January 17th.

Not a Clean Sweep

A St. Dunstan's mat-maker was once visiting a south coast town with his wife. Passing a small hotel one day they noticed that the door-mat was decidedly the worse for wear. Being a very enterprising St. Dunstaner he slipped his business card underneath it and they went on their way. Four months later they were again in the town and near the hotel. The old mat was still at the door. Out of curiosity his wife lifted it. His card was still there too.

Can you tell a good story—amusing or interesting—connected with your work? If so, send it along to the Editor who will be very glad to publish it.

Bridge Tournament—Final Placings

NAMES	Waite and 1 Slaughter	Crook and 2 Nuyens	Coles and 3 Toft	Gover and 4 Thompson	Milligan and 5 Brown	Downs and 6 Graves	Rhodes and 7 Collins	Taylor and 8 Craigie	Winter and 9 Roden	Points Scored	Final Placings
Waite and Slaughter 1		A A	W2 L	W2 L	A L	L W2	W2 W2	L L	W2 X1	13	5
Crook and Nuyens 2	A A		L L	L L	W2 W2	L W2	A A	L A	W2 L	8	7
Coles and Toft 3	L W2	W2 W2		L W2	W2 W2	W2 L	L L	W2 W2	W2 L	20	3
Gover and Thompson 4	W2 L	W2 W2	W2 L		W2 W2	W2 L	W2 W2	W2 W2	L W2	24	1
Milligan and Brown 5	W2 A	L L	L L	L L		L L	A A	W2 L	L X1	5	9
Downs and Graves 6	W2 L	W2 L	L W2	L W2	W2 W2		L W2	L W2	W2 L	18	4
Rhodes and Collins 7	L L	A A	W2 W2	L A	A A	W2 L		L A	L L	6	8
Taylor and Craigie 8	W2 W2	W2 A	L L	L L	L W2	W2 L	W2 A		L L	12	6
Winter and Roden 9	X1 L	L W2	L W2	W2 L	W2 X1	L W2	W2 W2	W2 W2		20	2

A — Abandoned.

W — Win.

L — Lost.

X — Draw.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Nine Mile Handicap Walk

In fine but cold and windy weather the nine-mile Handicap Walk took place at Regent's Park on Saturday, January 28th.

Once again for this Walk we were obliged, owing to road repairs, to walk across a section of the Park from the North Gate to Hanover Gate.

We were honoured on this occasion by the attendance of His Worship The Mayor of Marylebone in the capacity of starter to a small but enthusiastic field of walkers.

After a good race the placings were :—

T. ap Rhys, 1st with 90 minutes 5 seconds in the B Section and G. Fallowfield 94 minutes 18 seconds, 1st in the A Section.

Owing to sickness and the weather we had only two competitors in Section B and our thanks are due to the anonymous donor who presented a consolation prize to A. Craigie, the loser in this event.

Miss Hamar Greenwood very kindly presented the prizes to the successful walkers and expressed thanks to the officials, escorts and all helpers who had once again come along and with their great help, contributed to the success of the afternoon.

In a word of thanks to Miss Greenwood, T. ap Rhys coupled with it a vote of thanks to Miss Davies and the staff of ladies who never fail in their untiring efforts to gain the approbation of the general company of sportsmen who attend these functions.

Appended below will be found the times and placings of the walkers.

Twelve Mile Walk

MAY we remind walkers that the 12-mile Handicap Walk from Headquarters will take place on Saturday, February 25th, commencing 2.30 p.m., when it is hoped that all the walkers will be fit and well.

Cup Final, April 29th

We hope to have a limited number of tickets to sell to St. Dunstaners for the Cup Final. Tickets for this popular annual event will be 7s. 6d. Applications for tickets should be sent in to the Sports Office not later than March 22nd, when a ballot will be made and successful applicants notified immediately. The maximum allotment of tickets will be two per member.

Army International Football

We have been fortunate enough to secure the privilege of a number of complimentary tickets for the *Army v. The French Army* match at the Crystal Palace Football Club's Ground, Selhurst Park, on Saturday, February, 25th, 1939. K.O. 3.15 p.m.

Will any St. Dunstaner with an escort, wishing to attend the above Match, please send in his application to the Sports Office immediately to enable a draw to be made if necessary.

Tuesday Night Dance

A dance will be held in the Lounge at Headquarters on Tuesday, March 7th.

Brighton

The next Brighton Sports Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 8th.

Nine Mile Walk, 28th January, 1939

Competitor				Actual Time	Handicap Time	Handicap Allowance	Position in Handicap	
T. ap Rhys	...	...	...	90.5	87.35	2.30	1	B SECTION Takes con. prize
A. Craigie	...	...	...	99.48	88.18	11.30	2	
S. Dyer...	...	...	...	95.14	83.14	12.0	1	A SECTION
H. Giles	...	...	...	95.51	86.51	9.0	2	Fastest Time
T. Rouse	...	...	...	98.35	87.5	11.30	3	
G. Fallowfield	...	...	...	94.18	87.18	7.30	4	
J. Triggs	...	...	...	109.46	96.46	13.0	5	

“In Memory”

PRIVATE HERBERT VICTOR THOMPSON
(3rd Middlesex Regiment)

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of H. V. Thompson, of Hastings.

“Tommy”, as he was known to all his friends, was totally blinded at Salonica early in 1917, and a few months afterwards was admitted to St. Dunstan's where he took up training in boot-repairing and mat-making. Later on he gave up this occupation in favour of telephone operating. For seven years he worked in the offices of the Finchley Branch of the Gas Light and Coke Company, and it was a great sorrow to him when, because of his health, he had to give up this post. After various periods in hospital, he and his wife went to live near Hastings, in the hope that his health would benefit, but unfortunately this was not the case, and some months ago it became evident that the end was near.

He died on January 12th, and a few days later was buried in the “Heroes' Corner” of Ore Cemetery, a privilege which had been specially given him because of his war record. “Mr. H” and several of his St. Dunstan's comrades were among those attending the funeral. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Thompson in her great loss.

PRIVATE ENOCH ALFRED HARRISON
(Royal Berkshire Regiment)

We deeply regret to record the death, on January 13th, of E. A. Harrison, of Mapperley.

Harrison was wounded at Cambrai in 1918, as a result of which not only was his sight damaged, but his left hand was crippled and he suffered severely from deafness. Naturally he was not able to take up any strenuous training, but he had a period at the Brighton Home, when he learned typewriting and wool rug work.

Arrangements had been made for him to come down to the new Home at Brighton for the Christmas holiday but he was taken ill and admitted to hospital where he died.

A wreath was sent for the funeral from Sir Ian and comrades. We extend our sincere sympathy to his relatives, in particular his sister and brother-in-law, with whom he resided.

PRIVATE WILLIAM WILSON
(Labour Corps)

With deep regret we record the death of W. Wilson of Kirkham.

Although this St. Dunstaner has been under our care since 1924, it was not possible for him to take any training on account of his age and his extremely bad health. Many men will remember him, however, as he always enjoyed a holiday at the Annexe at Brighton.

Wilson was staying with a nephew at Lytham when he was taken ill at a concert, and died a few hours later in hospital. His death took place on January 12th.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades, and we extend our sincere sympathy to all relatives, particularly to his brother and nephew.

CORPORAL WILLIAM ARMSTRONG
(1st Royal Welsh Fusiliers)

It is with deep regret that we record the death, on January 12th, of W. Armstrong, of Liverpool.

Armstrong enlisted in 1915, and was wounded at Passchendaele in 1917, but he did not come under St. Dunstan's care until 1925.

He learned both mat-making and boot repairing at different periods after his admission to St. Dunstan's, but not being a very fit man, for the last two or three years he had been content to carry on with wool rug-making.

He was taken ill at Brighton. He returned home, but became worse and passed away there.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades. Armstrong leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

Mrs. R. W. Bowen

We have heard with deep regret of the death in London of Mrs. Bowen, wife of our South African St. Dunstaner, Advocate R. W. Bowen, M.P., after a serious illness.

Many St. Dunstaners and workers for St. Dunstan's will remember Mrs. Bowen as a V.A.D. and Braille teacher before her marriage to Bowen, and as the sister of Sir Harold Gillies, the famous plastic surgeon, who did such wonderful work for many of our men with severe facial wounds.

Miss G. Drage

Many St. Dunstaners will hear with deep regret of the death of Miss G. Drage who for some time worked as a V.A.D. at the Bungalow. Miss Drage had been very ill for over a year. She passed away on December 29th.

Miss E. Gowers

We have heard with regret from Miss Pain of the death of yet another old friend, Miss Edith Gowers, who was with us at one time as a Braille teacher. Miss Gowers died suddenly last month from the effects of an accident.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 250.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

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PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

EDITORIAL

ST. DUNSTANERS ON THE AIR

HOW many St. Dunstaners heard Tommy ap Rhys, of Bangor, broadcast in the "In Town To-night" programme from London on February 25th? The twelve mile walk had taken place in the afternoon at Regent's Park, and as winner of the Section B class Tommy was asked to be "In Town To-night". His conversation with Mr. Lionel Gamlin, the interviewer (who incidentally is known to many of us as a talking book reader), came over easily and naturally, and our St. Dunstaner received many congratulations upon his broadcast.

Listen on March 22nd

Captain Ewart Kempson is a very well-known authority on bridge. His articles in Northern newspapers are widely read, and every month he arranges a bridge broadcast from Newcastle which is relayed from the London Regional programme.

Captain Kempson is very interested in our bridge players, and a few weeks ago made a special journey to Headquarters in order to give them a talk. Now he has invited four St. Dunstaners to travel to Newcastle on Wednesday, March 22nd, to take part in his monthly broadcast. They will bid and play two hands, without any previous knowledge of the cards, of course, and Captain Kempson will give a running commentary on the play. The St. Dunstaners will be P. R. Coles, H. Gover, R. Graves and E. Toft. The broadcast will be from four until four-thirty on the London Regional programme.

On the evening of the same day, two duplicate bridge matches will be played against two local teams. This will be our men's first experience of duplicate bridge, but Captain Kempson has not the slightest doubt that they will give a good account of themselves. These two matches will be open to the public.

Send Us News of Yourself

St. Dunstan's men are "news" whether it is on the air or in the Press. There are thousands of references to them in the newspapers every year. This, of course, is all to the good, for publicity for St. Dunstan's men is publicity for St. Dunstan's.

The public may have come to take for granted the achievements of our men, but they still like to read about them. News editors know this, and provided the "story" is of sufficient interest, will do their best to give it space in their columns.

That is one of the reasons why we are glad to have special items of news about St. Dunstaners. They are always of interest to us, and in all probability—assuming, of course, that there is no objection to general publicity—of interest to the Press as well.

Royal Humane Society Award for a St. Dunstaner

A ST. DUNSTANER, A. E. Bettaney, of Fenton, Staffs., has been awarded the honorary testimonial on vellum by the Royal Humane Society for his efforts to save a drowning man last July.

Bettaney was on holiday at Trusthorpe, Lincs., and was swimming in the sea about two hundred yards out. He was turning to come back when he heard cries for help from a man and woman some distance out. The man was in difficulties and Bettaney swam to him and held his head above water for some time. The man, however, struggled violently until both were becoming exhausted.

Our St. Dunstaner shouted for help, and just as he was despairing of saving the drowning man or himself, three men with a life-saving buoy went to their assistance and brought the drowning man to shore.

The Chairman of Longton Police Court, Mr. Joseph L. Whitehurst, who made the presentation on February 20th, congratulated Bettaney on his bravery and said the city would be proud to have such a man among them who, despite his disability, had the courage and the stout heart to rescue a man drowning in fifteen feet of water.

An Outsize in Bulbs

H D. GAMBLE, of Hitchin, had a bowl of narcissus. At Christmastime, he brought them indoors; they were then one inch above the ground. "Immediately they got in the warm," said Gamble, "one vigorous fellow started to grow at an alarming rate exactly six times as fast as his pals, with the result that we had one thirty inches high and the remainder only five inches. The big fellow being on the edge of the bowl, you can imagine how mad it looked. The weight of the blooms on the long thin stalk made them hang over, to look down on the others as much as to say 'Get a move on, shorties'."

Gamble's luck is certainly out with regard to bulbs. The year before last nothing came up at all. He looked beneath the surface and found the bulbs had vanished entirely. Rats had taken them, and covered the holes so that outwardly nothing had ever been there. He found a large bulb in the mouth of a rat hole; it was too large to go down, and that gave him the clue.

Reunion Meetings, 1939

Southern Area

Reading	The Palm Lodge, West Street	Fri., April 14
Gloucester	Cadena Café (Connaught Rooms)	Fri., April 21
Exeter	Rougemont Hotel	Tue., April 25
Bedford	Dujon Rooms, High Street	Thur., May 4
Ashford	County Hall	Fri., May 5
Southsea	Esplanade Assembly Rooms	Thur., May 18
Colchester	Cups Hotel	Fri., May 19

Northern Area

Manchester	Grand Hotel	Tue. and Wed. April 18 and 19
Birmingham	Edgbaston Assembly Rooms	Fri., April 28
Gt. Yarmouth	Hill's Restaurant	Tue., May 2
Lincoln	Falcon Hotel, Saltergate	Tue., May 9
York	De Grey Rooms, St. Leonards	Thur., May 11
Cork	Metropole Hotel	Tue., May 23
Dublin	Jury's Hotel	Thur., May 25
Belfast	Merrythought Café, Wellington Place	Fri., May 26
Leicester	Winn's Café, Market Place	Wed., May 31
Edinburgh	Victoria Hall, Fairley's Restaurant	Tue., June 6
Newcastle-on-Tyne	Grand Assembly Rooms	Thur., June 8

All meetings begin at 12.30. Lunch at 1.

Derby Sweepstake

OUR Derby Sweepstake, open to all St. Dunstaners, has now begun and full particulars were given in last month's REVIEW.

Tickets are 2s. 6d. each, and a remittance to cover the number of tickets required must be enclosed, together with the sender's name and address, with each application.

The closing date is May 15th.

Birth

STOCK.—To the wife of C. H. Stock, of Gorsley, on March 10th, a son.

Marriage

FEARNLEY—FINEBERG.—On February 26th, at Brighton Registry Office, R. E. Fearnley, of Brighton, to Miss Fineberg.

Of Interest to St. Dunstaners' Friends

WHEN the Corps of Good Companions was formed at the end of last year, it was thought that as many of them were meeting St. Dunstaners for the first time, a few suggestions as to the special requirements of blinded men might be useful to them. A very helpful little leaflet was therefore drawn up and sent to them by Sir Ian Fraser, under the title, "Hints for Good Companions."

Since then, many other helpers of St. Dunstan's have seen the leaflet and have found it useful, and it has been suggested that probably there are many friends of individual men who would also be interested in it. For their guidance, therefore, we print the following extracts from "Hints for Good Companions."

WALKING—

The ordinary St. Dunstaner who is fit and well is very easy to walk with. All he needs is guidance, the rest he will do for himself. Generally speaking it is better that the St. Dunstaner should take your arm, rather than that you should take his. The reason for this is that if he takes your arm it puts him just a few inches behind you. The fact that he is a few inches behind you will mean that your movements will occur just before it is necessary for him to make his, and he will thus automatically be warned of them. But you must tell him of steps. "Now we are just coming to a flight of steps," or "Now we are just coming to a big step down" and so on.

In going through a door, go first yourself and open it, letting him follow you. Do not try and push him through first. In getting into a tram, bus or taxi, go in first, saying "Now I am just going to get into the tram, follow me."

READING ALOUD—

If you are reading a book aloud, read steadily and clearly. Do not stop at every paragraph or two to interject a comment of your own. If you are reading a paper, ask the St. Dunstaner what part of the paper he would like. If he says the news, read out the head-lines, and tell him to say "yes" or "no" if he wants the article or news item read. Tell him not to hesitate to stop you if, after a paragraph or two, he finds he does not want to hear it after all.

CINEMAS AND THEATRES—

There is always a certain amount of a film or play that is not explained in speech, and the escort can help by giving brief explanations. It is well not to overdo the explanations, as when you are talking the blind man will not hear what is being said on the stage or in the film.

St. Dunstaner's Air Raid Shelter

Sergt. Alan Nichols, who was one of the first to realise the necessity of an air-raid shelter, and whose design for a dug-out caused a great stir in North London and in Leeds, has now build himself a similar one at his home in Fowey, Cornwall. It is Fowey's first shelter, and gives protection to thirty adults and children. Nichols has offered the dug-out to the local authorities, and Mr. L. J. Croxford, chief A.R.P. warden for Fowey, has informed the *Western Morning News* that he was greatly impressed with the shelter, and has accepted the offer.

This Month's Best Story

TWO friends met who had not seen each other for some time. One said that he was looking for another job, whereon the other suggested that he should try for one at his works. "Is the work very hard?" asked the first man. His friend assured him that it was easy and that there was little to do. In fact, they played cards best part of the day. "Righto," said the first man. "That's the job for me. I'll be along on Monday morning to see the foreman."

On the Monday morning he turned up at the works and saw the foreman:

"Well, my man, what do you want?"

"I've come for a job, sir."

"Have you been out long?"

"Two months, sir."

"Are you insured?"

"Yessir."

"Have you brought your cards?"

"Yessir, and if I like the job I'm going to bring my dart board."

Holiday Apartments

Weston-super-Mare.—Mrs. Bull caters for bed and breakfast or full board. 62 Southend Road, Weston-super-Mare.

Letters to the Editor

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.
DEAR SIR,

It would be interesting to know how many St. Dunstaners are members of, or are interested in Toc. H.

To them and, indeed, to all St. Dunstaners I should like to recommend "Towards New Land-falls" by Hubert Secretan. This book has been recorded for the talking book reader and will shortly be in circulation.

The reader is Bobs Ford, Administrative Padre at Toc. H headquarters, and it is excellently read and recorded. I should think there are many St. Dunstaners, like myself, who are members of Toc. H. To those who are not I should like to say that Toc. H offers to all of us great opportunities not only for making new friends, but also for personal service in many directions. I can think of no association of men which is better suited for St. Dunstaners, if they wish to do something for others and also wish to make new contacts with younger men.

Yours faithfully,

N. A. RAMSDEN.

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,

DEAR SIR,

I think it would be a very good idea to have a bowling green at the new Home, and lots of fellows would get no end of fun out of it, to say nothing of the exercise.

Some years ago we had a lawn the size of a bowling green, and I used to play with sighted friends, and more often than not scored better than they did. My wife used to stand by the "jack" and call quietly to me, "This way." Of

course I occasionally made a mistake, and threw wide, and on one occasion sent the wood gaily along, only to be greeted with a yell of horror "That wasn't the jack, it was Dorando." Dorando being our tortoise which had got on the green unnoticed.

I do hope many St. Dunstaners will second the suggestion of brother Slaughter.

Yours sincerely,

G. A. JOLLY.

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

I was interested by the letter from E. Slaughter in your last issue, on the subject of bowls at the new Home. I suggested last year to one or two people on Headquarters staff, that a bowling green would be a desirable addition to the amenities of the new Home. The game is one which the blind can play with a considerable amount of success, and is also excellent exercise for the elderly, and those who are not keen on walking. A sighted marker is advisable, and he can direct the game in the following manner.

He stands just behind the object jack, and after a shot, gives the position of the wood by the clock method, simply calling, say, three o'clock four feet, and so on. The player can get his direction by having the bowling mat so adjusted that its sides are pointing to the object jack, and by just running his hand along one of these edges he gets the correct line for his shot.

I hope many others will support the idea of a St. Dunstan's Bowling Club, With so many men living in the Brighton area, I see no reason why it should not be a great success.

Yours truly,

J. A. GODWIN.

Physical Training at Home

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—foot placing sideways.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head turning quickly.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms bend—one arm upward, one arm downward stretch.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Hips firm—foot sideways place. Trunk turning quickly.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Arms bend—feet full open. Heels raising and full knees bending.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride, arms sideways stretch. Trunk bending backward with hands turning.
- (7) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm, leg raising backwards.
- (8) *Lateral Ex.*—Arms bend, foot sideways place. Trunk bending sideways quickly.
- (9) *Abdominal Ex.*—On the hands. Foot placing forward.
- (10) *Dorsal Ex.*—Arms bend, foot sideways place. Trunk forward bend.
- (11) *Final Ex.*—Hips firm, heels raising and knees bending slowly.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) As before.
- (2) Position of attention. Keep chin in, stretch fingers down when turning head.
- (3) Arms bend position first, then stretch one arm upward and at the same time, one arm downward stretch.
- (4) Turn from waist above as far as possible.
- (5) Keep body perfectly upright and open knees outwards when bending.
- (6) Rotate arm, turning palms upwards when bending backwards, and return with upward stretching.
- (7) Leg as far back as possible, keeping body erect.
- (8) Force wrist back level with shoulders.
- (9) Bring knee outside elbow when placing foot forward.
- (10) Keep back straight. Chin tucked in.
- (11) About a dozen times through.

The New Brighton Home

The Dining Hall

WE think that it will be generally agreed that the dining arrangements at the new Home have surpassed all expectations. The food and service are excellent. Modern equipment and time-saving devices in the kitchens and service-room contribute greatly to this, while the splendid co-operation of the dining-room staff ensures the smooth running of this most important department. Sister Davies is Dining Room Sister, or "Minister to the Interior"—as she herself puts it; Sister Keily is her second-in-command.

Like the other public rooms in the Home, the dining hall is lofty, spacious, and light: two walls are composed entirely of glass. Very beautiful heavy curtains, with a scroll design in red on a soft fawn background, are drawn at night.

Six paces inside the door, and to the left, is the aisle between the tables which are numbered from one to six left, and one to six right. The chairs also are numbered—eleven to a table. Soon, rubber strips will be in position down the middle of the aisle, which will lead to the respective tables. The latter are of Australian walnut and are glass-topped. St. Dunstaners have made them all and also the three-tiered trolleys used by the orderlies. Two tables at the rear of the hall are reserved for the staff. "Boyd's Bad Boys" occupy one (or so it says on the menu card!) All the china used in the dining-hall is white with a blue band, with St. Dunstan's badge also in blue.

There are folding doors at the entrance end of the hall and these can be thrown open (as they were at Christmas-time, for instance) to form one very large room with the adjoining lounge.

Set high in the wall at this end of the room is one of the two electric chiming clocks which were subscribed for by St. Dunstan's men as a memorial to Matron Thellusson. (The other clock is in the lounge.)

The right and lower sides of the room, which are of glass, have deep window seats enclosing the radiators. The right-hand window overlooks a small garden at the back of the building and three dog kennels

which have been thoughtfully provided for four-legged escorts.

A door on the left at the far end of the hall leads to the visitors' sitting-room, the model room, and the talking-book rooms.

The service door is immediately opposite the door of the dining hall. All food is sent down in electric lifts from the kitchens on the top floor and the service is connected by telephone with the kitchens.

Discord at the Brighton "Pig & Whistle"

A little pig and whistle in a box were laid,
The pig was cast in sugar, of gold the whistle made.

Now what a thing to do. 'Twas sure to make them bristle.

That little sugar pig, and that golden whistle.

☆ ☆ ☆

"An outrage," snorted Pig, prepared to pipe his eye,

"How dare you think of coming into my new sty?"

Said Whistle, very shrilly, "Please stop your abuse,

"I'm here to stay for ever, so it isn't any use."

☆ ☆ ☆

"Go to," said Piglet, squealing, "You shiny little beast,

"And blow your very loudest where the lions feast."

"Oh, dear," said Whistle, wisely, "what classics have you taken?

"It flavours not of Keats, or Burns. It sounds much more like Bacon."

☆ ☆ ☆

"You little squirt," said Piglet, snorting; "I care not for your snub,

"Oft-times you have to hang with me, outside a common pub."

"Encore, encore!" the whistle cried. "You'd make a fine Recorder,

"But you forget the whistle's there, to keep the pig in order."

☆ ☆ ☆

Said Piglet, turning very red, "You'll never order me,

"Not me, a Pig, of Baconsides, with longest pedigree."

Said Whistle, very cutely, "if you're of finest stock,

"Then tell me why you Baconsides all end upon the block?"

☆ ☆ ☆

Now Piglet lost his temper and charged from north to south,

And rammed his flat, blunt nose right into Whistle's mouth.

And there they stayed throughout the night, until the break of dawn

When Matron had to clap her hands instead of blow—that morn.

E. SLAUGHTER.

Old Braille Literature Wanted

Mrs. W. Scott-Pearey, of 3 Victoria Square, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 2, wife of our St. Dunstaner, would be glad to receive any Braille literature or periodicals which are no longer wanted, for distribution to a group of civilian blind young men who are studying journalism.

Young St. Dunstaners

The eighteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Potts, of Stockton-on-Tees, fractured his leg while playing football for Eamont Road on February 25th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Robert Aitken, fifteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Aitken, of Newcastle, has also had a serious accident. With a school-friend, he was experimenting with a chemistry set and set light to some gunpowder. There was an explosion and both boys were taken to Newcastle Infirmary suffering from severe burns.

☆ ☆ ☆

D. J. (Buller) Jordan, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Jordan of Leominster, has won the welter-weight boxing championship of Herefordshire for 1938-9.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. A. Ruston's son, Eric, was married to Miss Norah Meader on February 25th at Poole, Dorset.

To Louis Braille

When Fate my sight chose to destroy,
It robbed me of a boundless joy,
And left me grief without alloy,
My spirit did me fail.

I now felt such a useless thing,
A really sadly helpless thing,
And life seemed such a hopeless thing,
The future made me quail.

My friends tried hard to cheer me up,
They did their best to buck me up,
They said that I must rouse me up,
That courage would prevail.

Then someone introduced the dot,
Which interested me a lot,
And soon my troubles I forgot,
As light peeped through the veil.

When I had learned to read and write,
I felt that I would win the fight,
So persevered with all my might,
No fears did me assail.

And now my life is full of hope,
For with its buffets I can cope,
No longer do I sit and mope,
My thanks to Louis Braille.

"DUNVEAGAN."

Competition Corner

ON March 6th, the last day for receiving entries, in the February competition the first correct result opened by Mr. Banks was from J. D. Higgins, of Brighton, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent. The correct solution was:

MEDICAL
CLAIMED
DECIMAL
DECLAIM

Breaking the Ice

EACH of the following stars represents a letter. You are invited to fill in the blanks to make the words suggested by the clues

I	C	E	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
*	I	C	E	*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	I	C	E	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	I	C	E	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	I	C	E	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	I	C	E	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*	I	C	E	*
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	I	C	E

1. Hint given in the title of this problem.
2. Deputy ruler (two words).
3. Sheets giving costs of materials (two words).
4. Allurement.
5. Italian dish.
6. Liberal, bounteous.
7. Noisy (two words).
8. Ally.

A prize of ten and sixpence will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, April 3rd. Mark your envelopes, "Competition Corner."

Four Generations

A. G. Bright, of King's Cross, is now a grandfather. A son was born to his son on February 23rd. As Bright's father is still alive, there are thus four generations living.

A Maidenhead Stroll

A stroll is being arranged again this year in the Maidenhead district, so make up your minds to come. This is a good day. Don't be afraid of the distance to walk because Mr. Roberts of Maidenhead, is arranging two circuits, one smaller than the other, and both are due to arrive at the same place for lunch.

If you have the slightest interest get into communication with H. Gover.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

TWELVE MILE HANDICAP WALK

THE weather for the above Walk was anything but kind, a stout drizzle being maintained throughout the afternoon, which while not upsetting the walkers to any great extent, was anything but favourable to the officials who had to be standing about most part of the afternoon.

Mr. Swain, the Sports Captain, acted in the capacity of starter to a small but very keen field of competitors.

The first two scratch placings were well fought out between T. ap Rhys and W. Trott, and after a good, hard walk, Tommy was successful in 116 minutes 8 seconds as against 116 minutes 15 seconds by Bill Trott, both being a little slower than last year when the weather was excellent, and that probably just made the difference.

Mr. Swain at the conclusion thanked Dr. C. Chittenden Bridges for kindly coming along to present the prizes, and also extended thanks to the escorts and to Miss Davies and her helpers, who worked so hard to see that everyone's inner-man was well provided for.

We were asked on this occasion by the B.B.C. if we would arrange for the winner of Section B to broadcast in the "In Town To-night" programme. We agreed, and Tommy ap Rhys was whisked off after a hasty cup of tea and with a compere gave a splendid talk on his walking efforts of the day and said a few words in general on St. Dunstan's walking.

Congratulations, Tommy! A good day well rounded off on the air.

Appended below is a list of the final placings:

Sports Meeting

The Meeting to discuss the summer sports will be held on Tuesday, April 25th, at 7.30.

Tuesday Night Dance

A dance will be held at Headquarters on Tuesday, April 4th.

Birmingham Walk

The Birmingham Walk will take place on Saturday, April 15th.

Wembley Walk

The 15-mile Walk at Wembley will be held on Saturday, April 22nd.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be held on Wednesday, April 5th.

Bridge at Brighton

On February 18th a number of bridge players seemed to have arrived at Brighton for the week-end or were staying there with broken legs, so a Bridge Drive was organised and held on the Saturday, and the first three were R. Toft, F. Winter and F. Rhodes. The drive was so successful that practically the same sixteen fellows sat down for another drive the same week-end and the first three in this case were E. Toft, T. Rogers and W. Collings.

H. G.

Preliminary Camp Notice

I hope to arrange Camp at Stratford-on-Avon at the end of June or July. The date is dependent on the date of our Regatta. I hope to announce final dates for camp in the April REVIEW.

A. SPURWAY.

Twelve Mile Handicap Walk

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Time	Handicap Allowance	Position in H'cap	
A. Craigie	126.40	106.40	20.0	1	B SECTION
W. C. Castle	128.3	107.33	20.30	2	
W. C. Scott	136.18	109.18	27.0	3	
A. Lenderyou	134.36	111.36	23.0	4	
T. ap Rhys	116.8	114.8	2.0	5	
					Fastest Time
T. Rouse	123.45	105.45	18.0	1	A SECTION
J. Triggs	132.21	106.21	26.0	2	
H. Giles	120.58	106.43	14.15	3	
W. Trott	116.15	107.30	8.45	4	
W. T. Scott	125.35	107.35	18.0	5	
					Fastest Time

"In Memory"

PRIVATE ERNEST JAMES BURGESS
(1st Gloucestershire Regiment)

We deeply regret to record the death of E. J. Burgess, of Bristol.

Burgess was one of the "Old Contemptibles" who went to France at the outbreak of the War and was seriously wounded at the Battle of Le Cateau in September, 1914, in the retreat from Mons. He was picked up by the Germans and taken prisoner. Eventually, owing to ill-health, he was repatriated to Switzerland, and subsequently came to St. Dunstan's in 1917. Owing to the privations and hardships suffered as a prisoner of war, Burgess never recovered his health. He had his right eye removed and was left with very little sight in the left eye.

He came to Headquarters and was trained as a poultry farmer, but later on gave this up in favour of shop-keeping. He and his wife continued at the latter right up to the present time, but although Burgess always tried to keep busy, his health was far from good, and in recent years he became much more delicate and suffered a great deal. His last illness was very serious, and it became evident that he was not going to recover. He died on February 15th and the funeral took place a few days later. It was attended by various relatives and friends, and among the wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Burgess and her family.

PRIVATE CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL BURKE
(Royal Fusiliers)

We deeply regret to announce the death of C. M. Burke, of Fulham.

Burke came to St. Dunstan's early in 1917, after service in France. While in France he suffered severe attacks of inflammation to his eyes which eventually led to his blindness.

He came to Headquarters and had training in boot-repairing, at which occupation he worked for some time. Of later years, however, he had not been at all well, and last month he was admitted to hospital, where he died a few days later on the 16th.

The funeral took place at Fulham Old Cemetery and was attended by his sons, daughter, and other relatives. Mrs. Burke, his widow, was unable to be there as she is very ill in hospital. Among the wreaths was one in the form of our badge from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Burke and her sons and daughter.

PRIVATE CHARLES WILLIAMS
(Royal Dublin Fusiliers (Labour Corps))

We regret to record the death of C. Williams, of Cam.

During the War Williams served in Gallipoli, Salonica and France, as a result of which his vision became defective and gradually deteriorated to such an extent that he became eligible for our benefits.

On account of ill-health Williams was not fit to take up training of any kind, but he had a certain number of poultry which made quite an interesting hobby for him. For some years past Williams' health had been steadily getting worse, and when last in London it became obvious that he was in a serious state of ill-health. His death occurred on the 10th instant, and the funeral which took place a few days later was attended by various relatives and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

ALBERT MEARS
(National Volunteer Reserve)

We record with deep regret the death of A. Mears, of Leyton.

This St. Dunstaner was blinded during an enemy air raid in August, 1915. He then came to St. Dunstan's, and took up training in mat making at which he worked for a number of years. Lately his health had not been very good and when in February of this year he succumbed to an attack of bronchitis it was seen that he was very seriously ill indeed. In spite of the care and attention which were given him he died on the 12th February. The funeral took place a few days later and among the relatives and friends present was a blinded soldier comrade, Mr. H. A. Gardiner of Leyton. A wreath was sent from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Mears and her son in their bereavement.

PRIVATE ROBERT COOK
(9th Yorkshire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of R. Cook, of Letchworth.

During the War, Cook saw service in France and Palestine, and shortly after his discharge contracted eye trouble which eventually led to his blindness.

He then came to St. Dunstan's for training in poultry-farming and mat-making, at which latter occupation he worked for many years. Lately his health had not been very good as he had been suffering from heart trouble for some little time. His death, however, took place very suddenly on the 6th instant, and was a great shock to his wife who was with him at the time.

The funeral took place a few days afterwards and was attended by many relatives and friends, including a St. Dunstaner comrade and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. A. Kay, of Letchworth. Among the wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his other comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Cook in her bereavement.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

EDITORIAL

Competitions

A NUMBER of readers have written to say that they enjoy the teasers set in Competition Corner and hope that they will be a permanent feature. We hope so too, although whether the editorial grey matter will be able to stand the strain after the first year or so remains to be seen.

It is always rather a difficult matter to know which competitions are most popular. We announce one perhaps which entails a good deal of thought and perhaps a delving into reference books. This arouses the criticism that a competition like this rather rules out the man who may not be in a position to get this research work done for him, and benefits the one who has a number of works of reference at his elbow.

On the other hand, when we have a competition, the result of which is to be on the "first opened" principle, there is sometimes the objection that there is too great an element of chance about the whole thing, and readers do not bother to enter at all. By the way, here is a point which has been raised on one or two occasions lately. When we say, "the first correct solution opened", we always mean the first correct entry opened after the closing date. We think it will be generally agreed that it is quite unfair for a competitor to win a prize simply because he chances to live in or near London, and therefore his entry is among the first to arrive.

The majority of St. Dunstaners, we think, enjoy this element of chance, but we can see the other point of view, and we will do our best to meet the wishes of both sides.

This month's competition was suggested by G. S. Chappell, of Saltford. Perhaps others of you have ideas for competitions. If so, we should like to have them.

Derby Sweepstake

And now for that hardy annual—the Derby Sweepstake—which closes on May 15th, and will be drawn on the afternoon of Thursday, May 18th, at Headquarters.

It would be a great help if entries were sent in as early as possible, and once again we must emphasize that they *must* be accompanied by a postal order (crossed) or cash to cover the cost. It is very much regretted that payment for Derby Sweepstake tickets cannot be made through another department. If your tickets do not reach you by return of post (or thereabouts) it is not because they have been overlooked. We do our best to get them out as soon as possible, but this is not always easy, particularly in the closing days, when we are apt to receive applications with insufficient addresses, letters with no postal orders, and sometimes postal orders with no letters. One last warning. Please do *not* enclose Derby applications in competition envelopes. If you have read the third paragraph on this page you will know why.

Good luck to all of you.

Talking Books

"KING SOLOMON'S MINES", by H. Rider Haggard, read by R. L. Allen, which the Chairman mentioned in the February REVIEW as one of the most interesting books he had read recently, is now available in the Library.

Other books which have been added to the list and which I think will interest St. Dunstan's men are "A Damsel in Distress", by P. G. Wodehouse, read by Lionel Gamlin; "Victoria—4.30", by Cecil Roberts, read by Alan Howland; "The Good Companions", by J. B. Priestley, read by Lionel Gamlin; "Jock of the Bush Veldt", by Percy Fitzpatrick, read by A. E. McDonald; "Lorna Doone", by R. D. Blackmore, read from Braille by A. Lloyd.

In a few weeks' time we hope that three more very interesting books will be in the Library and ready for circulation. A. J. Cronin's "The Citadel", about which you will all have heard; "Insanity Fair", by Douglas Reed, *The Times'* Correspondent, in which the Central European situation is set out comprehensively and clearly; and "The King's Service", by Ian Hay, which is of particular interest to old soldiers as it traces the British Army from its inception to the present day, demonstrating the development of the modern soldier—his position in history and his place in the modern state.

We have available some re-conditioned headphone models, which can be operated through your wireless receiver (if it is fitted with gramophone terminals) or listened to through headphones at the special price of £2. 10s. Also, there are some acoustic models available (cabinet or portable) at 35s. and £2. If you have not already a Talking Book machine these prices are subject to the grant of £1 made by St. Dunstan's. H. V. K.

National Laying Test

Report for the Fifth period of four weeks
January 30th to February 26th, 1939.

Position	Name	Test Score value
1	Carpenter, E. H.	451
2	Jackson, G. C.	391
3	Holmes, P.	385
4	Benning, A.	382
5	Hill, R. E.	369
6	Jarvis, A.	366
7	Fisher, T. M.	349
8	Woodcock, W. J.	347
9	Knopp, H. A.	341
9	Holmes, P.	341
11	Campbell, J.	340
12	Chaffin, A.	309
13	Hammett, H. A.	300
14	Pink, A.	296
15	Chaffin, A.	285
16	McLaren, D.	282
17	McLaren, D.	262
18	Smith, W. Alan	261
19	Brown, M. Watson	254
20	Jackson, G. C.	235
20	Smith, W. Alan	235
22	McIntosh, C.	212
23	Webb, W.	151
24	Powell, G.	141

Individual scores of first three No. 1 birds to date.

1st month	score	2nd month	score
Holmes, P.	3,957	21	Pink, A. 3,873
Campbell, J.	3,831	20	Holmes, P. 3,855
Pink, A.	3,873	20	Jackson, G.C. 3,909
			Holmes, P. 3,957

3rd month	score	4th month	score
Pink, A.	3,873	60	Pink, A. 3,873
Chaffin, A.	3,939	54	Chaffin, A. 3,939
Holmes, P.	3,855	53	Benning, A. 3,825

5th month	score
Pink, A.	3,873
Chaffin, A.	3,939
Benning, A.	3,825

Brief Notes

When Joe Beckett, former heavyweight champion, was refereeing a boxing tournament at Ryde recently, Paddy Doyle, who was in a ringside seat, was introduced to him from the ring. In his younger days in the Navy Paddy himself was a prominent boxer.

☆ ☆ ☆

Congratulations to telephonists R. E. Fearnley and L. Saxton who are now in posts.

E. H. Carpenter, of King's Langley, who held first position in the National Laying Test at the end of the winter period, has heard from one of his customers that he was second in the Competitors' Customers Section in the Test.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mrs. Shepherd, wife of T. Shepherd, of Leighton Buzzard, is now a Grade I A.R.P. and First Aid Lecturer, and is also Ambulance Officer.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the EDITOR of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, N.W.1.

Please send me the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for { one year } for
which I enclose { 7s. 6d. }
 { 3s. 9d. }

Name

Address

N.B.—Please strike out the period and charge not required.

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WROTH INSTITUTION

Young St. Dunstaners

Mavis, the ten-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hazel, of Merton, has passed Grade 4 of the Royal College of Music, with distinction, and has been awarded a prize entitling her to play at the Wigmore Hall in July. This is a coveted prize.

☆ ☆ ☆

Pupils of Letham (Angus) School take "Broadcasts to Scottish Schools" and they were recently asked to make a tune to a poem by Mr. Herbert Wiseman. The tune composed by Frieda Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Anderson, of Letham, was chosen and was broadcast at their last "wireless" lesson.

☆ ☆ ☆

Jack Sim, son of our late comrade, W. J. Sim, of Aberdeen, is now on the "Iron Duke." Jack, who is known to his shipmates as "Silver Sim," has won the boxing championship and is being presented with a wristlet watch.

☆ ☆ ☆

May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. McLoughlin of Dublin, took the first prize in drawing in the junior section at the Dublin Feis.

Pat, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Richardson of Hogsthorpe, Skegness, has passed her first music examination with honours, obtaining 92 marks out of a possible 100.

☆ ☆ ☆

Another young St. Dunstaner has broken his leg playing football. He is Brian, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Martin, of Bray, Ireland.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Healey's son, William, who, like his younger brother, has already won several cups and prizes for boxing, has won the cup presented by the Lancashire and Cheshire Junior Amateur Championship of Boys' Clubs.

☆ ☆ ☆

Sarah Cockburn, daughter of our late Newcastle St. Dunstaner, was married to Frank MacVeigh at Walker Church on December 21st.

☆ ☆ ☆

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Alcott, of Shoreham-by-Sea, was married on Easter Saturday at St. Julian's Church, Kingston-by-Sea.

☆ ☆ ☆

Gladys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Collins, of Potto, Yorks, was married on February 18th to H. Bullock.

Physical Training at Home

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—foot placing forward.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head bending forward.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms swing upwards.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Arms bend—foot sideways place. Trunk turning quickly.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Arms bend—heels raise—knees bend—arms stretching sideways.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride, arms sideways stretch. Trunk bending backward with hands turning.
- (7) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm, leg raising forward.
- (8) *Lateral Ex.*—Feet close—arm upward—arm downward stretch. Trunk bending sideways.
- (9) *Abdominal Ex.*—Lying—arms upward raise. Legs raising.
- (10) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride, arms upward stretch. Trunk bending forward.
- (11) *Final Ex.*—Arms raising forward and upward, lowering sideways and downwards.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) (a) Carry foot forward, pointing toe to ground; (b) lower heel to ground; (c) raise heel again and bring foot into position of attention; exercise same number of times each leg.
- (2) Keep chin well tucked in when bringing head forward.
- (3) Position of attention, fingers stretched, swing arms above head. Keep body quite still when swinging arms up and down.
- (4) Turn from waist, above, always keeping wrists level with shoulders, turn trunk to left and right same number of times.
- (5) Raise on toes, lower to knees bend. Body must be upright all the time, then arms stretching several times.
- (6) Chin in, raise up chest, bend body back a few inches and turn hands, palms upwards.
- (7) Brace up standing leg. Keep shoulders back and hold balance a few seconds.
- (8) Reach up with arm above head before bending to side with arm down. Change arms before bending to opposite side.
- (9) Reach up with arms, thumbs on ground. Raise feet until legs are 45 deg. to ground.
- (10) Arms width of shoulders apart, chin in, trunk about 45 deg. to ground when bending forward.
- (11) Breathe in through nose as you raise arms and exhale through mouth as you lower.

Notes from Pretoria, South Africa

OUR Chairman has been having a most interesting, though short visit to South Africa and during the course of his travels has been delighted to meet many St. Dunstaners and their wives and families. From E. Denny, of Pretoria, comes the following very interesting account of Reunions in Johannesburg and Pretoria.

☆ ☆ ☆

Since Sir Ian and Lady Fraser landed at Capetown, where they were received by His Excellency The Governor-General, Sir Patrick Duncan, G.C.M.G., and Lady Duncan, their visit has been a most triumphal and successful one. They have travelled many thousands of miles by car and rail and have visited some of the large cities of the Union including Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, East London and Port Elizabeth. At all these places civic receptions and luncheons have been given in their honour. Reunions have been held in the four provinces of the Union and in this way our men have been given the opportunity of meeting Sir Ian and his wife. I was present at the Reunion held at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on March 14th and there were present besides myself, Owen, Kirstein, O'Connor of Johannesburg, and Muller of Mafeking. It was a very happy affair and we all enjoyed the excellent luncheon provided and the talks we were able to have with Sir Ian afterwards. The luncheon was also attended by members of the Johannesburg After Care Committee and the Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg. The President and Secretary of the committee, Mesdames Glenton and Marshall, also attended and I had a chat with another lady who devotes much of her time in the cause of St. Dunstan's, Mrs. Barnard of Potchefstroom.

Sir Ian has been attending as many as four functions a day, delivering speeches at all of them.

It was Pretoria's turn on March 13th and Sir Ian and Lady Fraser were given a most enthusiastic welcome when they arrived in the administrative capital of the Union. I was reminded of their previous visit in 1928 when I was one of many hundreds privileged to welcome them on Pretoria Railway Station. On that occasion

Sir Ian's car was drawn from the railway station by ex-service men, the procession extending for nearly a mile. On the present occasion, Sir Ian and his wife were first entertained at morning tea by the Pretoria After Care Committee. Mrs. Anderton acted as hostess in the unavoidable absence of Mrs. H. P. Veale, President of the Committee, whilst little Pat Green, granddaughter of Mrs. Kathleen Battle, presented Lady Fraser with a bouquet. The tea was followed by a public meeting which was attended by all the prominent citizens of Pretoria. Sir Ian was introduced to Mr. Leisk, C.M.G., Chairman of Barclays Bank Limited. Sir Ian told his audience all about the work of St. Dunstan's and outlined its financial policy. Mr. H. B. George, President, British Empire Service League, and Mr. Conway of the Moths returned thanks on behalf of their organizations and the meeting closed by the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow". It was then time to proceed to the Fountains Valley Kiosk which is situated in one of Pretoria's beauty spots. Here, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser were the guests of honour at a luncheon given by the Mayor and Councillors of Pretoria. About seventy prominent citizens attended including the Bishop of Pretoria, The Right Reverend Wilfred Parker, Col. H. P. Veale, Mesdames Anderton, Law, Battle and Lowe and Mrs. Helen Chadwick-Bates, O.B.E. And so a most memorable day in Pretoria's history came to an end. The luncheon was presided over by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor W. H. Atteridge, the Mayor being away in Capetown.

Mrs. Kathleen Battle who has done so much for the men of St. Dunstan's in South Africa is to be congratulated on the able manner in which she carried out the arrangements for what proved a most enjoyable and successful day.

A Poser

A. Radford, of Castle Cary, sends us the following puzzle which was taken from a very ancient carved stone wall sign outside an old inn:

"My name and sign is forty shillings just,
He who shall find my name, shall have
a pint on trust.

For why is not five, the fourth part of
twenty, the same in all cases?"

Answer on page 8.

THE NEW BRIGHTON HOME

The Lounges

AT the rear of the hall on the Main Floor of the Brighton Home lie two of the most important rooms in the building—the Dining-room and the Lounge. Only a few feet separate their doors. A handrail runs between them and it is only a matter of seconds to cross from one room to the other. As we have already mentioned, these two rooms can be made into one by opening the sliding doors in the dividing wall.

Like the Dining-room, the Lounge has two of its walls—the left-hand side and the bottom—made entirely of glass, and they are hung with the same beautiful curtains. The bottom windows overlook the grounds of the Home and the sea just beyond. The adjustable blinds are a great asset here for the Lounge has its full share of the sun.

Immediately opposite the door of the Lounge, Miss Davison, who is Lounge Sister, has her desk.

Down the centre of the room and by the walls on either side are deep, comfortable settees and arm-chairs in dark brown leather. Above is the chiming clock—our memorial to Matron Thellusson.

About halfway down the right-hand side of the room is the fireplace (this is the only coal fire in the building), and above it, in an alcove, is the portrait of Sir Arthur Pearson. Mounted on each side of the fireplace about 8 feet from the ground is a loud speaker. These loud speakers can be used in connection with a gramophone playing table which is also in the Lounge. A grand piano stands in the right-hand corner.

A few yards beyond the fireplace is a door leading to the Reading-room—one of four rooms which run parallel with the Lounge, the others being the Typewriting room, the Braille room, and the Quiet Lounge, which is entered from the Hall.

In the Quiet Reading-room, as in the Lounges, there are deep brown leather armchairs—and behind each chair are wireless head-phones, so that those who wish to enjoy a special programme undisturbed may do so.

Throughout the Lounges, and, indeed, in practically every other room, special safety ash-trays have been provided. These are of bakelite and are divided into a

number of compartments, each large enough to take the stub of a cigarette. There are also bins in various parts of the building into which portable ash-trays may be emptied.

The Quiet Lounges, and the Braille and Typewriting rooms, have the adjoining wall of the Lounge on the one side and on the other side, windows overlooking the sun terrace.

These rooms make excellent sitting-out places when a dance is in progress in the Lounge.

A Boot-repairer Remembers

IN my shop I meet all sorts and sizes—of people as well as boots and shoes. Some are funny peculiar, and some are funny ha-ha.

One customer brought a pair of shoes to be stretched. A week passed by and then she returned. We quickly recognized that we had forgotten to put the shoes on the stretcher, but before we could explain or apologize the lady said she would put them on there and then. Very soon she was stamping her feet with joy, and chucking twopence on the counter she left the shop, thanking us very much.

On another occasion a man came and asked how much it was to sole and heel his boots. On being informed, he produced a pair from apparently nowhere, and dropped them on the counter, the vibration dislodging several articles in my sales window. One could easily have played table tennis on the bottoms.

A little girl came in with a parcel and said she "wanted it mended". Undoing the parcel I found that it contained a clock. Picking up a piece of leather I said to her, "What's this, tripe?" and, believe me, she said "Yes". I dropped the leather on to the floor, and a hammer which I happened to be holding fell on to my big toe. It was then that the little girl knew she was in the wrong shop! J. WATSON.

Wise Words

You can't live on hope, but it should be on the menu.

Many people have a good aim in life, but they don't pull the trigger.

One of these days is none of these days.

Troubles, like tonics, have a bitter flavour, but they often lead to new strength.

To Account Rendered

AN artist who was employed to repair and remodel paintings in an old church in Belgium rendered a bill for Fr. 100. The church trustees, however, required an itemized bill, and the following was duly presented, audited and paid:

	Fr.
Correcting the Ten Commandments	7.10
Embellishing Pontius Pilate and putting new ribbon on his bonnet	3.02
Putting new tail on the rooster of St. Peter	4.18
Regilding left wing of guardian angel	2.02
Washing the servant of the High Priest and putting carmine on his cheek	3.10
Renewing Heaven... ..	1.00
Adjusting stars	2.06
Cleaning moon ... ..	.10
Restoring lost souls	25.00
Rebordering the robes of Herod and adjusting his wig	2.43
Cleaning Balaam's ass and putting new shoe on him	5.06
Putting earrings in Sarah's ears...	20.00
Putting new stone in David's sling	1.10
Enlarging the head of Goliath	1.03
Extending Saul's legs	2.05
Decorating Noah's Ark	6.50
Mending the shirt of the Prodigal Son	6.35
Brightening up the flames of hell...	.60
Putting new tail on the devil	1.50
Putting a silver coin over the poor box ... ..	.80
Doing several odd jobs for the damned	5.00
	Fr. 100.00

—*The Alfred Pemberton Magazine.*

Consider Your Verdict

THE following case was recently the subject of discussion in Court:—

Mr. "A" was driving a car through a village. While he was driving down the High Street, a cyclist came out of a side turning. The driver of the car swerved to avoid a collision with the cyclist and in doing so drove on to the pavement and crashed into a shop-window.

The owner of the shop claimed damages from Mr. "A". Mr. "A" maintained that he was not to blame, and that the smashed window was the direct result of the cyclist's action. The cyclist's identity had in the meantime been established.

The driver asked for the case to be dismissed and proceedings to be instituted against the cyclist.

How did the Judge decide?

Solution (based on counsel's opinion) next month.

Competition Corner

THE first correct solution to last month's problem was opened on the closing date and was sent in by N. Downs, of London, W.3, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. has been sent. The correct solution was as follows:

ICEBREAKER
VICE-REGENT
PRICE-LISTS
ENTICEMENT
VERMICELLI
MUNIFICENT
LOUD-VOICED
ACCOMPLICE

This month's competition (suggested by G. S. Chappell, of Saltford).

Each of the following clues represents parts of the human body:

1. TWO ANIMALS
2. TWO SCHOLARS
3. TWO TREES
4. TWO MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
5. A COUPLE OF FISH
6. TWO COVERINGS
7. TWO MEASURES OF LENGTH
8. TEN LEARNED GENTLEMEN
9. NECESSITIES FOR A CARPENTER
10. SHELL FISH
11. PLACES OF WORSHIP
12. WEAPONS OF WARFARE

A prize of 10s. 6d. will go to the sender of the first correct solution opened. Closing date: May 6th. Mark your envelopes "Competition Corner."

☆ ☆ ☆

H. McAteer, of Belfast, secured fourth place in the baritone class at Portadown Musical Festival. McAteer has only recently taken up singing. The adjudicator spoke very highly of his work.

The Old Stagers go Astrolling

OLD soldiers are never perturbed by the weather, and on Saturday, March 11th, in spite of a damp and depressing morning, a party of five of us arrived at Euston to board the 1.46 train for Tring. At Willesden we were joined by Ashton and Brown, and the others were W. Scott, Gover, Rhodes and Leslie Hind, who had kindly come along to escort the party on the stroll. No St. Dunstan's party is complete without a pack of cards, and so the train journey passed pleasantly. We alighted at Tring and here Jerome joined the party. Then I had a few reflective moments. To my amazement I realized that I was the only member of the party who had not taken part in competitive walking. Who was I amongst so many of these "men of the road"? But having turned my hand to the plough I had to go forward.

Capt. Oakley with a number of young fellows from the R.A.F. came along to act as escorts and we greatly appreciated their kindly help. Neither must I forget the willing helpers from the Y.M.C.A. Then the "men of the road" started. I was enjoying a gentle stroll in the rear with friend Scott and an escort when Leslie Hind insisted on my "walking". For quite a while it was jolly hard work for me. Leaving the road we passed into Dunstable Woods, and here I longed for a few moments' respite. I would have willingly sold myself into bondage for a few moments' rest, but their hearts were of stone, and, like Felix, we kept on walking. Shortly we came to the road. I think I must have been elated at the thought that I had kept going with these great "men of the road" and that gave me new energy, or perhaps it was the thought that I would, ere long, be enjoying my boon companion (Mr. Pipe). Anyhow, with head erect I kept with them to the end. Whisper it, I really enjoyed the walking. Good work was done to an excellent tea, through the kindly hospitality of Miss Talbot, of Little Gaddesden. Our best thanks to her and the many helpers. It was a happy tea party. Friends motored us to Berkhamstead Station. The inevitable pack of cards came to light again. And then home. Our thanks to H. Gover for arranging the trip.

A delightful outing, splendid comradeship. There is a fine spirit of comradeship existing to-day. We must foster it. One

good thing has come out of this stroll. These "real walkers" had practically decided to give up competitive walking, but at the end of this particular stroll they adopted the prerogative of the ladies, and they have changed their minds. At the moment they are training very seriously indeed for the Birmingham and Wembley Walks. I wish them joy. As a consolation to them I have not entered either walks. I prefer strolling. Romance may be found.

R. P. C.

The Maidenhead Stroll will take place on Sunday May 21st. It will be a full day stroll, and Charlie Gover will be glad to receive the names of all those who would wish to spend a very pleasant day.

Six Hundred Miles to Play Bridge

ON March 22nd R. Coles, H. Gover, R. Graves, and E. Toft, escorted by Jack Dawkins, took the Flying Scot to Newcastle, or rather the Flying Scot took us. After a pleasant game of crib and a delightful lunch, we eventually arrived with our Coles at Newcastle, where we were met by our host, Capt. Kempson, who is Bridge Editor of some dozen Northern papers.

We were taking part in Capt. Kempson's bridge broadcast at 4 o'clock so we went straight to the studio. After the broadcast and a cup of tea, we went to Newspaper Hall, where at 5.30 we played four of Capt. Kempson's team twelve hands of duplicate Bridge which we lost by the small margin of 830. After dinner Capt. Kempson said how pleased he was to have us there. He thought that with a little extra care and tuition in the art of bidding, we might easily rank among the leading bridge players in the country. We thanked Capt. Kempson for our reception and for giving us the opportunity of playing our first Duplicate Match. Dinner over, we returned to our second match and then to the station for the night train to London. H. G.

Holiday Camp

The date of the Holiday Camp at Stratford-on-Avon has been fixed for Friday, June 16th, to Saturday, June 24th. Camp fee: 27s. 6d.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE PERCY BROWNE
(3rd Hampshire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of P. Browne, of Buxted.

Browne lost his sight as a result of injuries sustained very early in the War, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in July, 1915. He was trained as a mat maker, and he carried on this occupation until last year. It was a great grief to him when his wife suddenly died about two years ago, and his health as a result was affected.

At the time of his death he was staying at St. Dunstan's Home on holiday. On March 9th it was found that pneumonia had set in and he died two days later. He was buried in the Brighton Cemetery near Matron Thellusson and his fellow St. Dunstaners. The funeral was attended by a large number of St. Dunstan's men and staff from the Home, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

TROOPER BERTRAM BAKER BOWERING
(2nd Royal Life Guards)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of B. B. Bowering, of Weston-super-Mare.

Bowering saw service in France and was wounded in the Ypres hostilities of August, 1917, as a result of which he lost his right eye, and retained only a little sight in his left eye. He was invalided home, and immediately came to St. Dunstan's where he took up training in basket-making, at which occupation he worked steadily and happily until he was taken ill last month.

Bowering led a very active life in his home town where he had many friends. He was a member of the local church, and was also interested in the Toc H and Boy Scout movements. It was a great grief to all his relatives and friends when, after only a few days in hospital, he passed away on February 24th. The funeral took place a day or two later and was attended by a very large gathering including Mrs. Bowering and her two sons, also four St. Dunstaners friends of her husband and their wives—Mr. and Mrs. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Horsnell, Mr. and Mrs. Perrett, Mr. and Mrs. Tucker and Mr. J. Sherratt, St. Dunstan's Technical Visitor for the West Country. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and there was a very large number of wreaths, among which was one from Sir Ian and other comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Bowering and her two sons in their great loss.

LANCE-CORPORAL LEEDLE HUTCHINSON
(15th Durham Light Infantry)

WITH deepest regret we have to record the death of L. Hutchinson, of Barmby Moor. Enlisting in 1915 Hutchinson was wounded in France early in 1918, as a result of which both eyes were removed. Taken prisoner, he was exchanged a few months later and after a period in King George's Hospital came to St. Dunstan's in June of the same year.

He was trained as a poultry farmer and took a great interest in this occupation until his health began to fail. Of late years his chief hobby, and that of his wife, has been the breeding of Bedlington Terriers and Whippets, at which they met with great success. Hutchinson's health had been causing anxiety for a considerable time, but he was only seriously ill for a few weeks before his death, which occurred at his home on March 23rd.

Representatives of the British Legion were present at the funeral, and a wreath was sent from St. Dunstan's from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Hutchinson.

Birth

WHITE.—To the wife of R. White, of Wembley, on March 27th, a daughter.

Silver Weddings

We have only just received notice that Mr. and Mrs. A. Hamlett, of Winsford, Cheshire, celebrated their silver wedding on February 13th of last year.

Other St. Dunstaners and their wives to whom we offer our congratulations are Mr. and Mrs. R. Humble, of East Howden-on-Tyne, and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Markwick, of Brighton. Their anniversaries fell on the same day—April 4th.

Holiday Apartments

Weston-super-Mare.—Mrs. Bull caters for bed and breakfast or full board. 62 Southend Road, Weston-super-Mare.

Whitley Bay.—Apartments or board-residence. Terms moderate. Mrs. W. Muir, Osborne Lodge, Promenade, Whitley Bay.

Answer to Poser on p. 4

THE name of the inn was "The Two Sovereigns". The name of the landlord was Mr. Pound. His wife made two pounds, or forty shillings.

The last line is an irrelevant clue. While five is naturally the fourth of twenty, it is also the fourth of XX in Roman numerals. Roman numerals use II as "two" but while O added to the modern 2 becomes twenty, O added to II certainly does not become a number of which the fourth part is five.

Brighton Sports Club

The first summer meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be held on Wednesday, May 3rd. Tea at 5 p.m.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 252.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

MAY, 1939

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

News from South Africa

LAST month I returned from a visit to South Africa. I am a director of a trading company which has interests in the Orange Free State, in Basutoland, and in Johannesburg, and it was to attend to the affairs of this company that I undertook the journey. But so universal and widespread are the interests of St. Dunstan's that I found myself attending to these wherever I went.

In Capetown, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg, Pretoria, Pietermaritzburg, Durban, East London, and Port Elizabeth I met St. Dunstan's Committees and attended public meetings, Mayoral receptions, and representative luncheon or morning tea parties. On top of my private business and certain other public duties this made a very heavy programme.

South Africa knows how to meet and greet her guests and everywhere we received the utmost kindness. Goodwill for St. Dunstan's is abundant and the public interest taken in our work is most gratifying.

Our South African Committee under the Chairmanship of General Tanner, and with Mrs. Chadwick Bates as its secretary, continues to do splendid work, looking after the welfare of South African blinded soldiers and raising funds for our South African and Imperial work. And in each of the centres we were able to visit, as well as in other cities and towns throughout the Union and Rhodesia, St. Dunstan's is extremely fortunate to have the most splendid band of regular voluntary workers, led by influential Presidents, Chairmen, and Hon. Treasurers and Secretaries. We in the Old Country and our comrades in South Africa owe these ladies and gentlemen a deep debt of gratitude.

I met many St. Dunstaners. In Capetown I met Bowen, still a Member of the South African Parliament and taking an active part in public affairs, including particularly the welfare of the civilian blind. He is Chairman of the South African National Council for the Blind. Stobie was there—a man of strong personality and charm, he is conducting a successful practice as a chiropractor. Sattary, mat-maker—who came over to England with his wife and family in 1935—and Helm and Van Blerk, busy basket-makers, also greeted us.

Johannesburg was my home for ten years when I was a child. My father was there in the earliest days when gold was first discovered. There are two streets called Fraser Street, one where we lived and the other where he had his office. I was proud to find the name still there. Here we met many old friends and connections, boys I went to school with, friends of my family and so on. The Mayor and City Council gave us an official luncheon at which 150 leading citizens, including the Mayors of ten neighbouring towns, were present. Here we met Kirstein, who carries on a highly successful practice as masseur and electro-therapist. O'Connor, Muller from Mafeking, and Owen gave us the pleasure of a talk with them. Kirstein made a charming speech of welcome, concluding with a greeting in the Afrikaans or South African Dutch language. Those old soldiers and others who

remember South Africa in the old days will be interested and perhaps surprised to know that bilingualism is no longer a theory or cult, but a practical reality. Every child, English or Dutch, learns both languages, and throughout the country as a whole, one hears the two languages spoken in ordinary day-to-day business and social life. When I first remember Johannesburg, say between 1902 and 1907, when I was between five and ten years old, it was a town of inevitable corrugated iron and timber; it is now like a modern American city, sky-scrapers and all.

At Pretoria was Denny; many will remember with pleasure his visit to Brighton two or three years ago. Although confined more or less to his chair he leads an active and busy life and is a great correspondent, writing frequently for ex-servicemen's magazines. We met also Captain Young, an Australian blinded officer who lives in Pretoria.

Pietermaritzburg was our next stop. Here were Mason, who continues with a very active business, making stools, trays, tennis nets and so on, and also De Kock, a new St. Dunstaner.

At Durban, Stayt, in an attractive speech welcomed us. He practises massage, and farms on the South Coast. His interest in and study of native questions is unabated and from time to time he makes contributions to current thought on this subject.

I was asked to make a presentation from our South African Committee, and Mason made one from the men, to Mrs. Holmes, one of our most outstanding voluntary organizing secretaries. She has represented us devotedly and ably for the past twenty-three years.

Archibald, whom many early men will remember, and Kayne, a new St. Dunstaner, both of whom poultry-farm not far from Durban, also attended the luncheon.

Port Elizabeth gave us the opportunity of meeting another new St. Dunstaner, Queate, on his poultry farm, and also one of the earliest South African St. Dunstaners, Meaker, who motored down from Grahamstown. Grahamstown is the centre where the South African Library for the Blind has its Headquarters for Braille and the Talking Book. I think all the men in the Union are great users of the Talking Book; many mentioned it to me and were full of praise and appreciation.

The great distances in South Africa, and the small number of men in any one centre, make regular reunions such as we have here, impossible, and I think our South African comrades enjoyed the lunch parties we had together, and they certainly gave Lady Fraser and me very great pleasure. Not the least pleasure of the visit was to see Mrs. Chadwick Bates again. St. Dunstan's generally, and our men in South Africa, are fortunate to have her to look after their interests so capably and devotedly. Her many old friends at home will be glad to know that she was in the best of health and spirits and wished to be remembered to them.

South African St. Dunstaners everywhere sent individual and collective messages of goodwill to St. Dunstaners at home, and I reciprocated these greetings.

IAN FRASER.

Derby Sweepstake

The draw for the Derby Sweepstake, which has now closed, will take place in the Lounge at Headquarters by two Section B St. Dunstaners on the afternoon of May 18th. All those drawing a horse will be notified the following day.

Consider Your Verdict

Solution to last month's problem.

The owner of the shop was awarded damages against the driver of the car, who, in his turn, had to sue the cyclist for the damages and costs of the first case, which the cyclist had to pay.

A Louis Braille Stamp

From "The Times"

The latest addition to the gallery of famous men who have been honoured on stamps is Louis Braille (1806-1852) inventor of the alphabet for the blind, whose effigy finds place on a new 2½ centavos stamp of Argentina, printed in black. It is curious that Braille, who was French, should take his place among the Argentine celebrities whose portraits adorn the stamps of that country. France, which produced recently a charity postage stamp to provide radio for the blind, has apparently overlooked his claims.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To the EDITOR of "ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,"

HEADQUARTERS OF ST. DUNSTAN'S WORK, INNER CIRCLE,

REGENT'S PARK, LONDON, N.W.1.

Please send me the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW for { one year
six months } for

which I enclose { 7s. 6d.
3s. 9d.

Name

Address

N.B.—Please strike out the period and charge not required.

A Brighton Memory

OCH! the fun we had at Brighton! Sure, 'tis vexed I am they won't let me travel the sea again.

Arrah, now! I mind one night coming off the Pier there wid Murdock and Bromley when we took a bit av a notion for fish and chips. We wandered into a place that Murdock said was all right. Down sinks I in the carpets up to me knees. "Murdock," says I, "'Hould me hand, for I'm out av me depth entirely, an' sinkin' fast." "Shut up!" says he, "and mind yer manners." A fellow comes along and takes the hats off us. "Murdock," says I, soft an' earnest, "'Tis sad an' sorrowful we'll be afore we gets out av this." "Will ye hould yer tongue, ye mad Irishman," says he. Down we gets to a bit av a table, an' I feels around. The divil a thing can I feel but knives and forks and spoons—No end to them!—and glasses by the dozen, all laid out. "Tell me now," says I, "In the name av goodness, what do we do with all these tools?" an' with that up comes a waiter and Murdock orders three fish and chips.

When it comes along, I lets on I can't feed meself, and gets the waiter to feed me. Ochane! Ye should have heard what the other two were sayin' about me under their breaths. I near choked wid laughin'.

When it was all over, Murdock asks, "How much?" and the waiter says "Seven and six to you, Sir."

Holly Powers! Seven shillings and sixpence for a slap av spuds and a couple av dabs!! Did ye ever hear the like?

A fellow gives us back our hats and sticks, and out we gets. Then another big lad at the door wants to know if he'll call us a car. "Car," shouts I, "Car is it? Get away man. D'ye want me to commit suicide? I'll not be able to stand meself a pint all week after this."

Laugh!! We hung on to one another an' laughed ourselves sick up to the Annexe.

Bad luck to this ould heart of mine for goin' back on me, or I'd be over again like a shot, so I just sits here on the jetty and thinks about it all.

Och! the fun we had to be sure!!

St. Dunstaner an A.R.P. Warden

Congratulations to T. A. Williams, of Sheringham, who is now a fully qualified Air Raid Warden.

Young St. Dunstaners

The son of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Porter, of Southampton, who was in the Metropolitan Police, has now been transferred to the C.I.D.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty Caple, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Caple, of Cardiff, has passed out with honours in her recent pianoforte examination. She hopes to become a music teacher.

☆ ☆ ☆

Gladys, the eleven years old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, of Wembley Park, has won a scholarship to Brondesbury and Kilburn High School where she will join her sister Peggy, while Peggy, who is fourteen, has just passed her Grade IV examination at the Royal Academy of Music.

☆ ☆ ☆

Leslie Storer, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Storer, of Leicester, has passed the qualifying examination for an artificer in the Naval Air Arm. He is eighteen.

☆ ☆ ☆

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen, of Wallasey, who is serving on H.M.S. *Royal Oak*, has been promoted to the rank of Petty Officer.

☆ ☆ ☆

The youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distington, has been mentioned in dispatches for devotion to duty and gallantry. He is now on his way home after nineteen months in Palestine. He is in the 1st Batt. Border Regiment.

☆ ☆ ☆

Josephine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Humble, of East Howdon-on-Tyne, was married to Harold Bishop at St. John's Church, Percy Main, on January 28th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Norman Francis, the third surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Denny, of Pretoria, married Lily St. Claire, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bunce, of Pretoria, at St. Alban's Cathedral, Pretoria, on April 15th. The Rev. C. R. Rumbold, Dean of Pretoria, officiated.

☆ ☆ ☆

Benny Skelly, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Skelly, of Batley, Yorks, married Miss Hannah Wood, of Ardsley, on April 29th.

Competition Corner

THE first correct solution to last month's problem opened on May 6th (the closing date) was sent in by R. Gifford, of Linlithgow, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent. This was the correct solution:

1. Calves
2. Pupils
3. Palms
4. Drums
5. Soles
6. Lids
7. Feet
8. Ten-dons
9. Nails
10. Muscles
11. Temples
12. Arms

Here is this month's teaser.

Two different eight-letter words may be formed from the eight letters given

Physical Training at Home

INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—feet full open—foot outward place.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head turning quickly.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms sideways raise—arms forward bend.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Arms bend—foot sideways place—trunk turning quickly, with arms stretching sideways.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Arms bend—feet full open—heels raise—full knees bend—arms stretching sideways.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Dorsal Ex.*—Neck rest—feet sideways place—trunk bending backward.
Complementary Exercise—Hips firm—trunk bending forward.
- (7) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm—leg raising forward, sideways and backward.
- (8) *Lateral Ex.*—Neck rest—feet sideways place—trunk bending sideways.
- (9) *Abdominal Ex.*—Lying—arms upward raise—legs raising.
- (10) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride—arms upward stretch—trunk bending forward.
- (11) *Running Ex.*—Running on the spot.
- (12) *Final Ex.*—Heels raising and knees bending.

below. Use all eight letters in each word.

E P R R S S U E

The prize of 10s. 6d. will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, which is Monday, June 5th. Mark your envelopes "Competition Corner."

Holiday Camp

The date of the Holiday Camp at Stratford-on-Avon has been fixed for Friday, June 16th, to Saturday, June 24th. Camp fee: 27s. 6d.

Please send your names to Miss M. Chadwick, Ingon Grange, Snitterfield, Stratford-on-Avon, before May 31st.

Holiday Apartments

Brixham, Devon.—Board residence, or bed and breakfast. Mrs. M. Hall, Westbury, New Road, Brixham, Devon.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Instructions as in last table, but place feet during exercise midway between forward and sideways position.
- (2) Body erect and shoulders kept square. Fingers stretch as the head is turned.
- (3) Raise arms sideways to shoulder level, elbows kept well back when bending arms forward.
- (4) Turn from waist above quickly and at same time stretch arms sideways. Equal number of times to left and right in trunk turning.
- (5) Keep body upright throughout the exercise. Bend and stretch arms two or three times only at first before stretching legs to normal position.
- (6) Elbows back level with shoulders, bend back only about 6 in. Keep chin tucked in always. Complete exercise as before.
- (7) Only raise leg 45 deg. from ground. Don't disturb position of body when raising leg.
- (8) Keep head in centre of body. Don't let it fall to side inclined. Chest up; elbows well back.
- (9) Raise arms up; touch ground with thumbs, hands width of shoulders apart. Raise legs about 45 deg. to ground.
- (10) Keep head in centre between arms. Force arms back when bending forward.
- (11) Keep up good fast movements with both legs and arms for a minute or two.
- (12) Only bend knees half way.

Derby Day

HOW many people are there on Epsom Downs on Derby Day?

That question is often asked or debated, and widely differing estimates tendered, because the greater part of this crowd, the largest assembly in Great Britain, and probably in the world, does not pay for admission or pass through turnstiles. Consequently, accurate official figures, like those which record the attendance at the Cup Final or at the Test Matches, are not available.

The number of people present can be calculated approximately with the help of Mr. Charles Langlands, the clerk of the course at the Epsom meetings. Certain it is that it exceeds half a million. He tells me that on a fine Derby Day 120,000 official race-cards are sold. He thinks that one person in five buys a card. If he is right, the total number on the Downs must be 600,000.

Tens of thousands attend Epsom races on Derby Day without contributing a penny-piece towards the cost of the show. The Derby may be a great national festival, but it is also a commercial enterprise costing a very large sum to present.

Many who are not regular race-goers, and who, when they visit the Derby, do not pay for admission to any of the official enclosures, have the erroneous idea that they have unrestricted common rights on Epsom Downs. They think, for instance, that they are entitled to park their car free on any vacant space, which may provide them with a view of some part of the race. The Downs are free to the public only for "air and exercise," to use the legal term. The Epsom Grand-stand Association has paid heavily at different times to acquire certain rights which were within the power of the lord of the manor and various public authorities to grant.

A considerable contribution to the expenses of Derby Day is obtained by letting areas on the Downs for the erection of refreshment tents, fun fairs, car parks, and other purposes. All the "pitches" for cars along the rails of the course are rented, and the fee demanded by the authorised attendants from any holiday-maker who drives his car into these spaces, which are mostly roped off, is quite in order and is indirectly a just contribution towards the cost of the entertainment provided.

There was racing on Epsom and the

neighbouring Walton Downs in the days of the Stuart kings, and meetings have been held regularly for over 200 years.

In 1828, Charles Buck, an enterprising citizen of Doncaster, obtained the permission of the manor court at Epsom to erect a permanent stand, and a lease of one acre of land was granted to him for this purpose. Then it was that the Epsom Grand-stand Association was founded, and until 1845 the association was concerned only with the control of the stands. The races were run by the stewards with the consent of the lord of the manor. In that year, however, the Association began to contribute money towards the prizes, but soon found themselves in financial difficulties.

It leased the Grand-stand for twenty-one years to Henry Dorling who gradually restored the prestige of Epsom races with the help and advice of Lord George Bentinck, and when his lease expired the Grand-stand Association resumed control and from that date managed the racing, though the lord of the manor retained for some years the management of the Downs. In 1888 the Association purchased from the lord of the manor of Walton part of the Downs which had previously been leased from him, and in 1925 the whole of Epsom Downs were purchased from the lord of the manor of Epsom.

When the new main stand was built at a cost of £250,000 in 1926, the local authority granted permission on condition that the Association gave six acres of the neighbouring Warren estate for the use of the public, to compensate for the additional ground required for the stand, the closing of certain ancient rights-of-way, and the erection of a new number board on the hill.

Since the Derby was instituted in 1780, its course has been altered five times, but Tattenham Corner has always been part of it.

ERIC RICKMAN in *Men Only*.

☆ ☆ ☆

The whippets which belonged to our late St. Dunstan L. Hutchinson, of Barmby Moor, have been transferred to his wife and at the West of England Ladies' Kennel Society on May 3rd, "Flight Lieutenant" won three third prizes and he and the bitch, "Lady be good," won first prize in the brace class.

The New Brighton Home Cloakroom Facilities

A NEW contingent is arriving to take up residence in St. Dunstan's Home at Ovingdean, and among other details to be arranged is the disposal of hats and coats on their arrival.

Previous to their arrival the cloakroom attendant has been furnished with a list of the names of men who should arrive, and he now refers to a register kept in the cloakroom—giving numbers one to 178 (the number of fittings actually in the cloakroom for the reception of hats and coats) to ascertain what numbers are not in use. Having found a vacant number the men's names are placed at the side of it and they are allotted a corresponding peg which is also numbered.

On arrival at the Home, men are handed a card, which among other information, acquaints them with their cloakroom number. They are then escorted through the drying and exercise rooms in orderly procession until it is their turn to hand hats, etc., over the counter to the attendant in the cloakroom. He tells the men their number and at the same time hands over a metal disc on which this number is stamped. The disc is an important factor to the smooth running of cloakroom routine and is always placed on the peg when a man has claimed his hat. No clothing is handed over unless a man produces his disc; it therefore answers two purposes—firstly a receipt for clothing, and secondly a means of quickly ascertaining if a man is in or out of the building.

The newcomers are now ready to leave the cloakroom and are escorted across the entrance hall to the lift, which takes them to the main floor where the dining room is situated and a welcome cup of tea is waiting.

Luggage was left in St. Dunstan's bus at the main entrance, but during the former procedure it has been marked by a V.A.D. with the number of the dormitory and bed the man will occupy. By the time tea has been served, all suitcases, etc., will be placed at his locker to await his convenience.

A drying-room has been mentioned. This is a most convenient asset for those who unfortunately have been caught in a storm. Its fittings are similar to those of

the cloakroom, but there is central heating by a coil of pipes, so that wet clothing will be dried in a short time. Clothing to be dried is handed to the hall porter who gives the man a number so that it may be claimed when needed.

Boot brushes are available in the cloakroom and also a clothes-brush, so that the attendant may assist with a "brush-down."

In addition to the main cloakroom on the entrance floor, there are men's cloakrooms on the fourth floor and on the fifth floor (the winter gardens), and there are lavatories attached to every dormitory.

In the exercise room is a rowing machine, a stationary cycling machine, and wall-attached developers. W.H.

National Laying Test

REPORT for the sixth period of four weeks February 27th to March 26th, 1939.

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Test score value</i>
1	Carpenter, E. H. ...	580
2	Holmes, P. ...	479
2	Jarvis, A. ...	479
4	Benning, A. ...	473
5	Jackson, G. C. ...	471
6	Holmes, P. ...	468
7	Campbell, J. ...	465
8	Fisher, T. M. ...	461
9	Hill, R. E. ...	459
10	Woodcock, W. J. ...	446
11	Knopp, H. A. ...	430
12	Chaffin, A. ...	413
13	Hammett, H. A. ...	403
14	Chaffin, A. ...	393
15	McLaren, D. ...	375
16	Smith, W. Alan ...	374
17	Pink, A. ...	351
18	McLaren, D. ...	334
19	Jackson, G. C. ...	314
20	Brown, M. Watson ...	307
21	McIntosh, C. ...	291
21	Smith, W. Alan ...	291
23	Powell, G. ...	211
24	Webb, W. ...	201

It's a Fact That—

The odds against a royal flush—a sequence of ace, king, queen, jack, ten of the same suit—being dealt in any one hand of poker are 649,739 to 1.

☆ ☆ ☆

Over 70 per cent of all fish eaten in this country is bought already cooked at fish and chip shops.

There are over 30,000 such shops in Great Britain.

Backstage in Fleet Street

"**A**NYTHING in the paper this morning?"

The question is asked and answered at millions of breakfast tables every day. Sometimes the answer is, "Nothing much." Some thousands of men have been killed in a battle which may decide the fate of three Chinese provinces; a trade agreement has been signed which will bring new hope to thousands of English homes; and a Cabinet decision has been reached which may mean the safeguarding of European peace for a decade; but—"Nothing much."

The average Englishman expects the world's news with the coffee and marmalade, and unless that news is dramatic, or seems to impinge directly upon his own daily life, he reads it with indifferent interest.

Few newspaper readers know exactly how their news comes to them—how it is gathered, prepared, selected, arranged, printed, and distributed, with clockwork regularity, every twenty-four hours. Some may have seen highly coloured screen versions of a newspaper office—seething turmoil of frenzied activity, with tough men shouting into three telephones at once, and reporters dashing in and out at a word from "the Chief." But this picture is misleading.

Frenzy, bustle, and excitement make good films but bad newspapers.

It is surprising how many people imagine that newspaper men suffer from a daily anxiety lest there should not be enough news to fill the paper. The sources of news are so well organized that every night the "copy" which is rejected is at least twice as much as the copy which appears in the paper next morning.

A word about these sources of news. Every important newspaper has its specialists. These men have applied themselves continuously to the study of certain aspects of news—aviation, Parliament, international affairs, crime, trade and industry, or finance. The specialist's is a delicate task. He must possess the absolute confidence of the people with whom he is in daily contact, yet at the same time keep his editor and the reading public abreast of every new development.

Then there are the foreign and local correspondents—experienced newspapermen who maintain their contacts over

areas instead of over spheres of activity. Whether it be a political crisis in Yugoslavia or the birth of quadruplets in Peebles, the newspaper's correspondent is ready with the news, by telegraph, telephone, and cable.

Both these "private" sources are supplemented by the work of the great news agencies. Reuters and the Press Association cover the whole civilized world, and their messages are transmitted to a huge number of newspapers at astonishing speed. The result of the Derby, for instance, will be known in Fleet Street before the crowd at Tattenham Corner has time to learn it.

Finally, there are the reporters—the maids-of-all-work where news-getting is concerned. A "flash" message arrives—"Express derailed Leighton Buzzard several killed"—and, in five minutes, the reporter is off in a fast car to provide a description "From Our Special Representative" of what looks like being the biggest news of the night.

A reporter flies with the Air Force, goes to sea with the Fleet, attends at Westminster Abbey for the Coronation, or spends months at sea in search of buried treasure; and in the intervals between these excitements he will sit in the office telephoning inquiries all over the world or patiently dissecting official publications in search of news.

All the work must be done with strict regard to the clock, to catch trains which will carry the completed newspapers to every part of the country. Even so, the layman might well be amazed at the speed with which last-minute news can be introduced into an already completed page when the occasion warrants it.

No sooner has the first edition been "put to bed" than the second edition is being prepared. A main-page story of half a column may be cut to a couple of paragraphs and put on a less important page in order to make room for late news of greater importance. The critics are back from the theatres, and their notices must go into the appropriate page. A fire has broken out in a City warehouse. At the moment the story is worth, say, a third of a column; but if the fire spreads, and if human lives are endangered, it may very well be worth more space and a more important position before the second edition

goes to press. The third and fourth editions will appear during the early hours of the morning, and a few reporters and sub-editors will work on, but by then the main task of producing the paper is over—"unless something happens."

And how often that "something" does happen! The man left in charge of the machines suddenly hears the never-sleeping tape machine ticking out a message. It is important news, and it has to be got into the paper. Then he thanks heaven for the invention of "stop-press" corner which he knows as the "fudge." The news is compressed into twenty lines, speedily set up into type, the "fudge-box" is clamped into the space provided for it, and the machines resume their thunder.

Stumps are drawn at 6.30 for the second day of the Test match at Melbourne, and the cables are busy. Two hours later, Mr. Brown, at his Kensington breakfast-table, observes with satisfaction that England has only 120 to make, with eight wickets in hand, and comments languidly to Mrs. Brown about it. A tired sub-editor, going to bed in Streatham, is also pleased. He may sleep satisfied that, at some breakfast-tables at least, the reply of "Nothing much" to the old question will not be heard.

Extracts from an article by ARTHUR E. WATSON, Managing Editor, *Daily Telegraph*, in *Home and Empire*.

Matrimony

I can't understand women at all. The missus and I had a row the other day and she ended up by saying she was leaving me for good and was going back to live with her mother.

"O.K.," I said, "that suits me. Here's the money for the fare."

She picked up the note and gave me an awful black look.

"This is no good," she said, "there isn't enough for a return ticket."

☆ ☆ ☆

I happened to hear a friend say to the missus, "Is your husband hard to please?" The missus said "I don't know, I've never tried."

☆ ☆ ☆

I always remember the time I nearly didn't marry the missus. I didn't propose; I just said, "Let's get married." "It's a good idea," she agreed, "but who'd have us?"

MAX MILLER in *Lilliput*.

Knowledge at Your Fingertips

I DON'T know exactly where he came from, but he wore horn-rimmed spectacles and smoked a large cigar and said there wasn't a Cockney knew a thing about London. "Isn't there," I said with a snarl, "You meet me to-morrow and I'll take and tell you more'n you'd care to listen to." He hesitated, then agreed that I and a pal with him and his "Pard" should take a stroll next afternoon.

With my left hand thrust deep into my trousers pocket and holding my visitor's arm with the right, I set off along Euston Road following the other two. They stopped and I made my first recital, "Here's George Stephenson. He was born in 1781 and in 1814 built the fust locomotive; in 1815 he invented the coal miners' safety lamp, got £1,000 for his trouble. Built Stockton-Darlington railway 1821, Manchester-Liverpool in 1826." We walked on a bit farther, "Here's St. Pancras. It took 60,000,000 bricks and 6,000 tons of iron. Mixed up in the station is that Regent Canal and Fleet River, but you can't see 'em because the bloke who built it put 'em both into a pipe."

Up Pentonville Road and along City Road. Then we arrived at the Mansion House, "the Money box for the world," said I, "'cos the Lord Mayor who occupies it while he's in office, organises all the collections for 'ard 'it people, all over the world." I turned and continued, "Naturally you'd find the Bank o' England near this. There it is, built in 1788. Over there is the Royal Exchange, built 1844 and opened by Queen Victoria." We moved on and I moved to the other side of my companion. I had my right hand in my pocket now. "Here we are, London Bridge. Built in 1757 and cost £2,000,000 and that's the Tower Bridge which cost 1½ million. That's the Monument, 200 feet high, with 345 steps in it. Coming up? No, no electric elevators there. Right, we'll stop here.

"There's the Tower built by order of William the Conqueror in 1078." We turned and walked back along Cheapside. "There's St. Paul's—built in 1775 by Sir Christopher Wren. Nelson, Wellington and all the great soldiers and sailors rest there." We moved on. "Here is the Old Bailey, supposed to be as sober as a judge, and right on up here, the Holborn Bars. That's the General Post

Office where the old road coaches used to start from London."

"This is Holborn Viaduct and that's the Meat Market, proper name, Smithfield Market; down here's Farringdon Street. This's Fleet Street from where we gets our news, see, and there's Ludgate Circus and the Law Courts—a fine bit o' work built in 1882, cost £2,000,000 and opened by the old Queen. Come on, here's Somerset House where all our birth certificates and marriage certificates are. The first part of this was started in 1776 and bits have been added. The Thames which came right up to it is separated now, as you can see and the embankment made." On I pushed them and we came to Trafalgar Square. "Here we are then, that's the Column and it's 154 feet igh. Before the figure was put on top, fourteen people sat down to a dinner up there." "Gee," commented my companion, "Yes, and them lamps over there are off the old Victory. That's the National Gallery, it was built in 1832, and that's White' all. Come on" and we went. "There's Wellington Barracks, or what some call the Horse Guards, and over there's the War Office, Downing Street and the Foreign Office. Here's Parliament Square and there's the old Abbey which was built in 1049; there's the Houses of Parliament what ole Guy Fawkes tried to blow up, built in 1840 by James Barry. That's Westminster Bridge and over there's St. Thomas's Hospital, the L.C.C. Headquarters and the Headquarters of the London Fire Brigade."

I showed them St. James's Palace and Buckingham Palace and we moved round. "And there's Victoria Station," I said. "If stations were mentioned in history, this one would come out an easy first. All great statesmen from foreign countries travel up to this station; during the war thousands of men came and left by this station. Kings and Queens have arrived and departed from Victoria, and even to-day there is at least one man every day either leaving or arriving at this station who belongs to one of the most famous armies in the world—St. Dunstan's blind army. But let's push on." But my friends held me back and suggested a meal. They had already decided there were Cockneys who know London.

Later when I was alone with my friend I took some papers out of my trousers

pockets. "What's that?" he asked. "This? Only the braille notes on London which I had in my pocket." "Crikey," said my pal, "No wonder he said you had a wonderful memory."

GEO. FALLOWFIELD.

General Sports Day Programme

Closing Date for Entries—Friday, June 9th (see page 10.)

1. Girls and Boys under 4 years of age 35 yds.
2. Girls and Boys, 4 years and under 6 years 35 yds.
3. Girls and Boys, 6 years and under 9 years 50 yds.
4. Girls and Boys, 9 years and under 12 years 60 yds.
5. Girls and Boys, 12 years and under 15 years 80 yds.
6. Ladies' Surprise Race
7. Three Legged Race, One Lady and one Gentleman.
8. Egg and Spoon Race.

Events for St. Dunstaners:—

9. Inter-club Cup Competition.
 - (1) Throwing the Cricket Ball.
 - (2) Putting the Weight.
 - (3) Single Jump.
 - (4) Treble Jump.
10. 75 yards Sprint—A and B Section.
11. Throwing the Cricket Ball, A and B Section.
12. Putting the Weight, A and B Section.
13. Throwing the Football, A and B Section.
14. Single Jump, A and B Section.

Reminiscence

It was soon after our eldest daughter was born while I was still at St. Dunstan's. The baby was being greatly admired by some visitors, one of whom was apparently a highbrow nit-wit: "It's remarkable. The men all seem so natural, and I suppose it's a good thing for them to marry, but I shouldn't think that blind men could have children." "They don't," was the prompt answer of one of my chums, Bur . . . (Sorry, Jimmy, the name nearly slipped out), "It's the wives that have them, but the husband's feelings are good."

A. J. RADFORD.

Wise Words

A crisis is a searchlight focussed upon our lives. The sudden illumination reveals their quality. CLAUDE HAUGHTON.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Summer Sports

THE General Sports Meeting was held in the lounge at Headquarters on Tuesday, April 25th. It was agreed that the date for the **General Sports** should be **Saturday, June 24th**, and the **Regatta, Wednesday, July 12th**.

Entries for the Sports Day would be welcome as early as possible with the number of tea tickets required. The latest date for entries will be **Friday, June 9th**. Please help us by entering your names and applying for tea tickets early, and send the names and ages of children taking part for inclusion in the programme.

As ages of children have to be grouped and published in the programme, only those whose names are sent in before the closing date can compete.

The list of events is given on page 9.

Wembley Walk

The final walk of the season took place at Wembley on Saturday, April 22nd, in somewhat erratic weather. We had bursts of rain and sunshine throughout a well fought out race.

Archie Brown was the winner in 2.15.15; J. Jerome was second in 2.21.17, and Tommy ap Rhys third in 2.23.57.

Tommy ap Rhys was once again successful in the "B" Section and for the fourth year in succession the winner of Dr. Chittenden Bridges' Cup and Medal. Congratulations, Tommy.

The Natappro Sports Club once again provided an excellent tea, served in their Club Rooms by their lady members.

Mr. Swain in a few well-chosen words thanked the organizing Committee and their staff for the excellent arrangements made before, during and after a very fine sporting afternoon.

Below are the final placings in the race.

Brighton Winter Sports

We regret that particulars of the Brighton Winter Sports results were held over from the last issue of the REVIEW owing to lack of space.

After a very enjoyable season's sports, the final placings in the Dominoes Tournament were T. Millard first with 30 points, and after an exciting race T. Newman and G. Rhees tied for second place with 17 points each.

(continued on opposite page.)

15 Mile Walk, Wembley, 22nd April, 1939.

Competitor	Scratch Race	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
A. BROWN	1	2.15.15	Scratch	2.15.15	5
J. JEROME	2	2.21.17	6.30	2.14.47	4
T. AP RHYS	3	2.23.57	6.30	2.17.27	9
J. COUPLAND	4	2.24.57	14.30	2.10.27	1
H. GOVER	5	2.25.9	11.45	2.13.24	3
G. FALLOWFIELD	6	2.27.41	15.0	2.12.41	2
W. TROTT	7	2.27.54	11.0	2.16.54	8
A. GILES	8	2.32.11	16.30	2.15.41	6
A. CRAIGIE	9	2.34.45	18.0	2.16.45	7
T. ROUSE	10	2.34.46	16.30	2.18.16	10
H. BOORMAN	11	2.44.20	18.45	2.25.35	12
W. PEACH	12	3.1.20	38.0	2.23.20	11
A. BROWN	1	2.15.15	Scratch	2.15.15	A SECTION. *Takes 3rd Prize owing to 3, 4, 5 getting Handicap prizes.
J. JEROME	2	2.21.17	6.30	2.14.47	
J. COUPLAND	3	2.24.57	14.30	2.10.27	
H. GOVER	4	2.25.9	11.45	2.13.24	
G. FALLOWFIELD	5	2.27.41	15.0	2.12.41	
W. TROTT	6	2.27.54	11.0	2.16.54*	
W. GILES	7	2.32.11	16.30	2.15.41	
T. ROUSE	8	2.34.46	16.30	2.18.16	
T. AP RHYS	1	2.23.57	6.30	2.17.27	B SECTION.
A. CRAIGIE	2	2.34.45	18.0	2.16.45	
H. BOORMAN	3	2.44.20	18.45	2.25.35	
H. PEACH	4	3.1.20	38.0	2.23.20	

The Matron and Mrs. Broughton very kindly gave prizes for the successful competitors and on the final day's sport Miss Rayson contributed to the enjoyment with two Chair prizes.

Brighton Summer Sports

The Summer Sports are this year being held in the field opposite the Home and we hope for good attendances.

The next sports will take place on June 14th.

Birmingham Walk

THE team competition for the Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. F. E. Spurway, *née* Miss Avis Hodgson, was again altered this year. Last year saw an exciting tie between London and the Rest. This year saw an equally keen contest between the South and the North, which resulted in a popular victory for the North by 23 points to 29.

Although the weather was less pleasant than last year, the showers came before and after the race. This was lucky as the keen wind slowed down the majority. It was not, however, sufficient to prevent some from showing that it was not only the "cracks" who could improve. Tommy

Rouse, Alec Craigie and J. Salt all bettered last year's effort by over two minutes and thus took the handicap prizes.

In the early stages of the race, the competitors kept well together, and it began to look as if Archie Brown's supremacy was to be seriously challenged, but he gradually forged ahead. The last two miles found many tiring considerably, and eventually Archie arrived home an easy winner from Billy Trott, who had pluckily held on to second position, with H. Gover, after a hard fight, in third place.

After the race, the tea and prize distribution made a very enjoyable feature of the day. The jovial hospitality of Mr. Ernest Lees, the pleasant chairmanship of Councillor Major F. J. Wilde, M.C., the charm of his wife who kindly distributed the prizes, and the general congratulations to the St. Dunstaners made it a typical function, which encourages all to look forward to the visit to the New Inns, Hands-worth.

Each year seems to provide some feature as the "best on record," and this time, the pleasure and enjoyment of the St. Dunstaners and the smooth carrying out of the event, thanks to the willing and efficient help of the escorts, patrols and officials, must surely be the record feature.

Birmingham Walk, April 15th

Competitor	Actual Time	Handicap Allowance	Handicap Time	Handicap Position
1. A. Brown	1:25:33	Scratch	1:25:33	12
2. W. Trott	1:28:10	4	1:24:10	9
3. H. Gover	1:28:27	4½	1:23:57	5
4. S. K. Jerome	1:28:51	2	1:26:51	15
5. T. ap Rhys... ..	1:28:56	2½	1:26:26	13
6. J. Coupland	1:30:44	6	1:24:44	10
7. G. Fallowfield	1:30:57	7	1:23:57	5
8. P. Ashton	1:31:6	3½	1:27:36	17
9. W. Giles	1:32:8	5	1:27:8	16
10. W. S. Castle	1:34:30	10½	1:24:0	7
11. T. Rouse	1:34:58	12	1:22:58	2
12. H. Boorman	1:35:33	9	1:26:33	14
13. A. Craigie	1:36:17	14	1:22:17	1
14. R. J. Williams	1:42:43	19	1:23:43	4
15. A. Prince	1:44:53	20	1:24:53	11
16. C. Peach	1:52:2	28	1:24:2	8
17. J. Salt	1:56:28	33	1:23:28	3

A. Section Scratch Race

A. Brown...	1:25:33
W. Trott ...	1:28:10
H. Gover ...	1:28:27

B. Section Scratch Race

T. ap Rhys	1:28:56
W. S. Castle	1:34:30
H. Boorman	1:35:33

Team Race.

North		South	
W. Trott	2	A. Brown	1
T. ap Rhys	5	H. Gover	3
J. Coupland	6	H. Boorman	12
W. S. Castle	10	A. Craigie	13
23		29	

"In Memory"

PRIVATE GEORGE STRICKLAND
(1/9th Bn. King's Liverpool Regiment)

We deeply regret to record the death of G. Strickland, of Liverpool.

Strickland, who was a single man, enlisted in March, 1916. As the result of a bomb explosion at Ypres in April, 1917, he lost the sight of both eyes.

He was trained at St. Dunstan's as a mat-maker, at which occupation he worked for a while, but for some years he had not been able to do much work on account of indifferent health. He was ill in hospital for some time before his death, which occurred on the 2nd April, 1939.

After a short service at the Toxteth Parish Church, which Strickland attended as a boy, the funeral took place at Allerton Cemetery. The wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was placed on the coffin, which was covered with a Union Jack.

We extend our sympathy to his relatives and friends.

PRIVATE JAMES A. PILE
(115th Gloucestershire Regiment)

We deeply regret to announce the death of J. A. Pile, of Rodborough.

Pile came to St. Dunstan's, but owing to his ill-health was unable to take up any form of training. From that time onwards he was devotedly looked after by his wife, who did everything possible for her husband's comfort. His death, which took place suddenly on the 26th March, came as a great shock to his wife as he had not been complaining unduly of feeling ill.

The funeral took place a few days later, and was attended by Mrs. Pile with her sons and daughter and other relatives. St. Dunstan's was represented by Mr. and Mrs. A. Bundy and Mr. H. A. Mussell. There were many wreaths among which was one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We send our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Pile and her family in their bereavement.

GUNNER ALBERT EDWARD PARSONS
(Royal Field Artillery)

We record with deep regret the death of A. E. Parsons, of Sutton Courtenay.

Parsons was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1927, and for some time carried on a little poultry farming. Later, however, his health began to fail, and for some years past he had been a complete invalid. His wife gave him constant care and attention, but in spite of this he died on the 9th instant.

The funeral took place a few days later and was attended by various relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. J. J. Morgan, a St. Dunstan's comrade, and his wife. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Parsons and her daughter in their great loss.

PRIVATE GEORGE EDWIN MEAKES
(Royal Army Service Corps)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. E. Meakes, of Chelmsford.

Meakes was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1921. He did not, however, take up any training as at that time he and his wife were running a little business in London; some time later they moved to Chelmsford, but Meakes' health, which had not been too good, began to grow worse. For some years past he had been practically an invalid, and had been very devotedly cared for by his wife. He died on the 30th March, and was buried a few days later at Writtle Road Cemetery.

The funeral was attended by relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. T. Kent, a St. Dunstan's comrade, and Miss Kent, his sister. The local British Legion and the Women's Section were represented by Major H. S. Doe, M.C., and Mrs. Doe. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Meakes in her great loss.

Birth

WILKINS.—To the wife of G. Wilkins, of Westbury, on the 2nd May, a daughter.

Death

WOODCOCK.—We offer our deepest sympathy to R. Woodcock, of Leeds, whose mother, with whom he lived, passed away on the 4th May.

Silver Weddings

We have only just received notice that Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Powell, of Bullinghope, Hereford, celebrated their silver wedding on October 29th last year. We also extend our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Cork, of Rhodes Minnis, whose anniversary was on May 9th.

To those interested in French

A number of Linguaphone Records of instruction in French have been presented to St. Dunstan's for the use of a St. Dunstan's man wishing to learn, or improve upon, his knowledge of the language. Will any St. Dunstaner who is interested send in his name to Mr. Askew not later than Wednesday, 24th May. If more than one application is received, a ballot will be taken.

It will be understood, of course, that the records will only be of use to St. Dunstaners already owning a gramophone.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 253.—VOLUME XXIII [NEW SERIES]

JUNE, 1939

PRICE 6d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

Chairman's Speeches at Reunions

IN place of "Chairman's Notes" this month, Sir Ian Fraser has given permission for us to reproduce a report of speeches he made at the Lincoln and Colchester Reunions which cover various points of topical interest.

Sir Ian Fraser said St. Dunstan's was the biggest brotherhood of the blind in the world. There was an empire organization. Practically all the men of the Home, Dominion and Colonial Forces who had been blinded as a result of the Great War had come under St. Dunstan's care and were still members of the organization. He had just returned from a brief trip to South Africa. In the course of this he had met St. Dunstan's organizing committees in all the big centres and had seen the majority of South African St. Dunstaners. The empire character of St. Dunstan's work was well illustrated. South Africa had its own St. Dunstan's Committees and the men there were well looked after, occupied and happy. They sent their greetings to their English comrades.

Two things were important for blinded soldiers: (1) that St. Dunstan's benefits should meet all reasonable needs, and (2) that they should be able to rely on St. Dunstan's to look after them until their lives end. He could tell them that the Council had both these needs in mind, and that their plans to secure continuity, no matter what might happen, were going well. (Hear, hear.) Even if unhappily war should break out, he could assure them that they already had a detailed plan worked out which would enable the organization to look after their interests in every possible way. (Applause.)

They would all agree that occupation was most important for the blind. St. Dunstan's would continue to do its best to provide a market for the goods they made in their homes. The blinded soldiers made goods at home, and St. Dunstan's rendered a very valuable service in providing the raw materials at cost price and ready for use, and in supervising the work by technical visits, and in helping to market the goods. In connection with marketing, there was a very real difficulty. They had a factory with a thousand roofs. Although the technical visitors and the technical men at Headquarters did their best, it was impossible that such an organization should be as flexible as a single factory. They could not, therefore, change their methods to suit changes of fashion as quickly as they would wish, and many blinded soldiers were getting older and could not easily change to new types of work. Added to this, trade was really very bad, except for defence requirements. It was essential that they should reduce production to suit the market, and they were now considering how this could best be done so as to be fair to all concerned. The principle they would have in mind was providing the largest possible number of blinded soldiers with the largest possible amount of work, and as far as possible to maintain their incomes. He could not say at the moment how they would solve this problem, but he assured them that they would do their best. (Hear, hear.)

Apart from work, they paid a great deal of attention to occupation of other kinds. Many men played cards and dominoes and they supplied the apparatus free, or at a specially

low price. They encouraged Braille reading. Last year thirty St. Dunstaners had been induced to take up Braille once again. He advised all to stick to their Braille. They would need it more and more as they got older and were less active. The Talking Book was going strong. Four hundred and fifty blinded soldiers were using it. They were publishing a new book a week. The Library now had nearly three hundred titles in it.

The new Brighton Home had now been open for six months. Many hundreds of St. Dunstaners had visited there. He had most wonderful letters from men all over the country to testify to the joy and pleasure they had experienced at the new Home. Those who had not yet been must book up, but there was already a pretty full list for the summer. They would find fine airy wards with plenty of room, most comfortable beds and good lockers; excellent lounges and quiet reading and typewriting rooms; a splendid balcony; all kinds of devices to enable the blind to find their way about alone. The Home was in fact designed for the blind and so it is unique in its way. There was a band of voluntary helpers who came in to read and go for walks. It was the last word in a convalescent and holiday home for the blind. Without exaggeration it was the best of its kind in the world. (Applause.) They could be very proud of this addition to the services of St. Dunstan's.

He had been asked by a number of St. Dunstaners what they could do by way of National Service. The masseurs, of whom there were over a hundred, would obviously be needed. Telephone operators could stick to their jobs. Many were helping on local committees and all could learn about A.R.P. and by being informed would render valuable service. A body of old soldiers well-informed and steady in times of emergency was a great asset.

Concluding, Sir Ian congratulated his friends and their wives on the smart way they turned themselves out. It was important that blind people who were expected by some to be careless about these matters should pay special attention to their personal appearance. "We are very proud of our organization," he said, "and congratulate and thank all of you, and all St. Dunstaners wherever they may be, for their loyalty to St. Dunstan's." (Applause).

Earlier Sir Ian had explained that he and Lady Fraser could not go to every Reunion. They tried to go once every three or four years. He was very grateful to his colleagues on the Council who presided at Reunions. Even with their help it was impossible for a Member of the Council to attend every Reunion, but a large part of the country was covered each year.

The following have attended Reunions this season :—

Reading, April 14th: Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Carpendale, C.B. Mrs. Charles Lloyd, mother of Miss Lloyd, also made the journey from London in spite of the fact that she is in her 90th year; Manchester, April 18th and 19th: Captain William Appleby; Gloucester, April 21st: Captain A. D. Macdonald, M.C.; Exeter, April 25th: Miss M. Hamar Greenwood, the Bishop of Exeter, and Col. G. L. Thornton, former Deputy Commissioner of Medical Services, Exeter and District Area, Ministry of Pensions; Birmingham, April 28th: Captain A. D. Macdonald; Great Yarmouth, May 2nd: Commander A. D. D. Smyth; Bedford, May 4th: Miss Hamar Greenwood; Ashford, May 5th: Colonel Eric Ball, L.C.C.; Lincoln, May 9th: Captain Sir Ian Fraser and Lady Fraser; York, May 11th: Mr. Godfrey Robinson; Southsea, May 18th: Lady Fraser; Colchester, May 19th: Captain Sir Ian Fraser and Miss Jean Fraser, and Capt. V. M. Deane; Cork, Dublin and Belfast, May 23rd, May 25th, and May 26th: Miss Hamar Greenwood; Leicester, May 31st: Lady Fraser and the Lord Mayor of Leicester, Alderman T. J. Gooding; Edinburgh, June 6th: Sir Charles Carpendale; Newcastle, June 8th: Captain William Appleby.

Mr. H. W. Ottaway has been present at all Southern Area Reunions and Commander A. D. D. Smyth has attended all Northern Area meetings. Mr. Banks, Mr. Doughty, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Day have also been present at a number of the Reunions.

Queen Mary

ON May 26th, the following telegram was sent to Marlborough House:

TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY

On behalf of blinded officers and men throughout the Empire, I wish Your Majesty many happy returns of the day and congratulate you on your fortunate escape. We learned with

particular sympathy of the injury to your eye and rejoice that this is improving.

IAN FRASER, Chairman.

The following telegram was received at Headquarters on May 27th.

Please convey to blinded officers and men throughout the Empire Queen Mary's thanks for the telegram of loyal good wishes.

PRIVATE SECRETARY.

Result of Derby Sweepstake

THE draw for the Derby Sweepstake took place in the Lounge at Headquarters on May 18th, and was made by W. C. Scott, of Manchester, and W. Storer, of Leicester. Mr. Swain, Mr. Banks and Mr. Fobbs were among the officials and staff who witnessed it.

The number of tickets sold was 1,295—forty-three down on last year—and after printing and postage expenses had been deducted, £156 was left to be distributed in accordance with the printed rules.

RESULT:—

First. BLUE PETER

G. Vaughan-Russell, Chiswick **£78. 0s. 0d.**

Ticket No. 354

Second. FOX CUB

E. Sheppard, Bromley **£31. 4s. 0d.**

Ticket No. 18

Third. HELIOPOLIS

W. Cromwell, Gloucester **£15. 12s. 0d.**

Ticket No. 521

The holders of tickets drawing runners in the race received £1. 6s. each. They were: C. W. Matthews, Maidenhead (345), Admiral's Walk; H. Garratt, Nottingham (863), Atout Maitre; T. Clarke, Carterton (629), Bellman; F. James, Hove (621), Buxton; J. Hartley, Brighton (1233), Casanova; R. Wass, Brighton (543), Dhoti; B. Hamilton, Thetford (1008), Dil-Bharah; P. W. Draper, Canterbury (111), Fairchance; W. Morton, Mount Lawley, Western Australia (781), Fairfax; F. Rodwell, Tring (287), Fairstone; T. Thorpe, Torrisholme (596), Hastings; H. Allcock, Sheffield (1007), Hypnotist; A. Hayes, Nottingham (817), King Legend; G. Featherstone, North Ferriby (1277), Larchfield; G. S. Hough, Southern Rhodesia (631), Major Brackey; A. J. Head, Brixton Combe (459), Mauna Kea; W. J. Razey, Bournemouth (734), Ortiz; T. C. Anderson, Cardiff (9), Pointis; R. E. Larcombe, Harrow (630), Rogerstone Castle; A. Hermon, Oxford (498), Romeo II; E. E. Bryer, Bristol (159), Salford II; H. A. Knopp, Worsop (1067), Triguero; A. Allen, Alton, Staffs (1146), Vesperian; J. Attrell, Polegate (894), Wheatland.

☆ ☆ ☆

A. S. Emerson, Little Clacton (1101), and S. Duncan, Sutton (928), drew Roderick Dhu and Snowcap respectively which, however, did not start. R. A. Clarke, of Gunnislake (442) drew The Field.

St. Dunstaner's Good Work for A.R.P.

ONE of St. Dunstan's officers, Mr. D. Littlejohn, of Seaford, approached his local authorities in connection with A.R.P. work. They suggested that as a blind man he would be most useful in the Control Room to receive incoming telephone messages from the various stations and wardens. In the meantime, our St. Dunstaner has passed a full Warden's test in order to have an understanding of the organization. Now he is taking the other courses—First Aid, Fire-fighting, and so on.

Soon Seaford is to have a black-out test and Mr. Littlejohn will be in the Control Room in order to give him an insight into what will be needed should an emergency arise.

Silver Weddings

TWO silver wedding anniversaries have only just been brought to our notice. Mr. and Mrs. H. Wignell, of Market Harborough, celebrated their anniversary on June 16th, of last year, and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thorpe, of Chelmsford, were twenty-five years married on January 15th.

Competition Corner

The solution to last month's problem was:

PRESSURE
PERUSERS

The first correct entry opened on June 5th was sent in by H. A. Hammett, of Carterton, Oxford, to whom the prize of ten and sixpence is being sent.

Here is a different competition.

Three white men and three cannibals are about to cross a river; the boat will take two persons only, at a time. All the white men can row, but only one cannibal can row. So long as the white men are not less in number than the cannibals on either side of the river, the white men are safe, but if the cannibals are allowed to be in the majority, the white will be eaten. How do all six get across in safety?

This month there will be a guinea for the first correct solution opened. Closing date: July 5th.

Birth

ALBERTELLA.—To the wife of M. H. Albertella, of Southend-on-Sea, on the 7th June, a daughter.

News from Australia

WE were very glad to have a cheery letter from R. Archer, of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia, now happily recovered from a long illness. During November and December, he tells us, three members of the Victoria Blinded Soldiers' Association were in the Caulfield Military Hospital—L. Gosewinckel, T. White, and himself. We heard with deep regret that the first-named passed away on January 14th but our other two St. Dunstaners have now fully recovered.

Archer writes:

"All other members are keeping well, and although getting older, they still attend the Club Rooms for dancing and cards. On Monday, April 24th, we hope to entertain Mrs. I. Day (formerly Miss Wilson, a V.A.D. at the Bungalow). Mrs. Day has been visiting her brother, Sir Leslie Wilson, Governor of Queensland. At our Annual Smoke Social held on March 13th, the Association presented a gold cigarette case, suitably inscribed, to

Mr. T. H. White and a fountain pen to Mrs. White. Mr. White was elected Hon. Treasurer of the Association at its inception on May 31st, 1918, and has held that position ever since and is still carrying on."

Archer is very proud of his son, Keith. He attends Caulfield Grammar School and besides obtaining his Intermediate Certificate with eight high standards, he won a Memorial Prize and the King Edward VII Masonic Scholarship. Not only is this scholarship worth £20 a year for four years, but there are only two awarded in Victoria each year—one to a girl and one to a boy.

L. GOSEWINCKEL

L. Gosewinckel, of Victoria, Australia, who passed away on January 14th, was a St. Dunstaner who had only been admitted to our benefits since January, 1936.

He was buried on January 16th with military honours, and the Soldier Service was conducted by our St. Dunstaner, P. J. Lynch, President of the Victorian Blinded Soldiers' Association.

Physical Training at Home

- (1) *Leg. Ex.*—Hips firm—Feet full open—Foot placing outward.

- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head Bending Sideways.

- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms forward bend—arms flinging.

- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Arms bend—feet sideways place—trunks turning quickly with arms stretching upwards.

- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firms—feet full open—outward lunge.

GENERAL EXERCISES

- (6) *Dorsal Ex.*—Neck rest—feet sideways place—trunk bending backwards.

Complementary Exercise—as before.

- (7) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm—knee rest—leg stretching forward.

- (8) *Lateral Ex.*—On the hands down—on one hand turn.

- (9) *Abdominal Ex.*—Lying—arms upwards raise—leg raising.

- (10) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride—Arms upwards stretch—trunk forward bend—swinging downwards and backward.

- (11) *March Ex.*—With knees raise double mark time.

- (12) *Final Ex.*—Hips firm—heels raising and knees bending.

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) (a) Carry foot to half right front pointing toe to ground. (b) lower heel to ground; (c) raise heel again and bring foot into position of attention; exercise same number of times each leg.
- (2) Keep shoulder square and still while bending head from side to side.
- (3) Elbows well back in first position; when flinging arms outward and back quickly don't check arms in backward movement.
- (4) Keep shoulders well back when turning trunk and at same time shoot arms upward.
- (5) Body should drop forward over outward knee without jerking; head and trunk to maintain relative position.
- (6) Chin in and only bend body backward a few inches.
- (7) Brace up. Standing leg and keep body upright and still when stretching leg forward.
- (8) Keep body in position during exercises; don't let hip drop towards ground when on one hand; repeat other hand.
- (9) Reach well up with hands, thumbs on floor, and point toes away when raising legs to 45 deg. to ground; don't hold your breath.
- (10) Reach well back with arms chin kept in and chest up; trunk bent forward only slightly.
- (11) Raise knees as high as possible keep heels off ground all the time during exercise.
- (12) Taken easy until body is back to normal.

Braille

WE have been asked to print a few of the latest additions to the National Library for the Blind's Catalogue, and the following are some in which we think St. Dunstan's men might be interested.

Fall Over the Cliff, by Josephine Bell. An exciting story of mystery and detection.

It Happened in Essex, by Victor Bridges. The author has taken marshes, creeks and estuaries of Essex as the setting for the mystery story. The hero's love of adventure brings him into conflict with a gang of criminals.

Death in the Hopfields, by John Rhode. Readers of this book will gain a very vivid idea of hopfield life whilst reading this neatly constructed detective tale.

Down to the Sea, by "Shalimar." Short stories.

Lord Emsworth and Others, by P. G. Wodehouse. Here is as good a mixed bag as one could wish for—no criticism is possible, it is highly amusing and can only be appraised.

Present Indicative, by Noel Coward. Brilliantly written and amusingly frank, the book gives a vivid impression of its author's career as an actor and as a playwright.

Portuguese Somersault by Jan and Cora Gordon. A convincing and enlightening insight into the country and the inhabitants is given in this well written book.

Do you own a Pianola?

A number of Aeolian pianola player rolls have been presented to St. Dunstan's. They are in three sizes— $10\frac{1}{4}$ inches, $10\frac{3}{16}$ inches, and $11\frac{1}{4}$ inches. These are inside measurements.

Will any St. Dunstaner who has a pianola, and would like some of these rolls, apply to his Area, stating the size of the rolls which would fit his instrument.

Talking Books

ST. DUNSTAN'S men will be aware that Talking Book machines are supplied to civilians as well as to St. Dunstaners. As the supply of machines is limited and we want to ensure that the distribution is carried out in order of application, it is very necessary that any man who has no further use for his machine should communicate with St. Dunstan's.

Therefore, if, at any time, you should wish to dispose of your Talking Book please write to us instead of disposing of it privately.

National Egg Laying Test

REPORT for the eighth period of four weeks, April 24th to May 21st.

Position	Name	Test score	value
1	Carpenter, E. H.	...	835
2	Holmes, P. ...	...	731
3	Holmes, P. ...	...	699
4	Fisher, T. M.	...	695
5	Campbell, J.	...	687
6	Jarvis, A. ...	...	660
7	Woodcock, W. J.	...	659
8	Benning, A.	...	658
9	Jackson, G. C.	...	630
10	Chaffin, A. ...	...	625
11	Chaffin, A. ...	...	623
12	Hill, R. E. ...	...	620
13	Knopp, H. A.	...	607
14	Hammet, H. A.	...	583
15	McLaren, D.	...	544
16	Smith, W. Alan	...	543
17	Jackson, G. C.	...	488
18	Pink, A. ...	...	482
19	McLaren, D.	...	443
20	Smith, W. Alan	...	442
21	McIntosh, C.	...	423
22	Brown, M. Watson	...	408
23	Powell, G. ...	...	342
24	Webb, W. ...	...	311

Resourceful

During the War, an Irish soldier in France received a letter from his wife saying there wasn't an able-bodied man left and she was going to dig the garden herself. At once he wrote back: "Dear Bridget—For heaven's sake, don't dig the garden. That's where the guns are." The letter was duly censored and in a short time an armoured lorryload of soldiers arrived at Dan's home and proceeded to dig the garden from end to end. In desperation, Bridget wrote to Dan: "What am I to do? The soldiers have dug up all the garden." Dan's reply was short and to the point. "Put in the spuds."

J. B. WHEELER, Birmingham.

Marriage

BITHELL-BODDY.—At the Chapel Royal, Brighton, on May 16th, W. Bithell, of Saltney, to Miss D. Boddy. The marriage was the first to take place from the new Brighton Home. Matron Boyd-Rochfort gave the bride away.

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to the following:

EVANS.—To A. C. Evans, of Monmouth, whose mother with whom he lived, passed away on Friday, May 12th.

GRIFFEN.—To A. Griffen, of Tupsley, whose wife died on Thursday, May 11th.

Accident at Brighton

FOLLOWING upon the motor-car accident which so very unfortunately led to the death of Sidney Smith of Northwood, on Saturday 27th May, two men have been engaged, one from 9 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. and one from 2.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. to be on duty on the road outside the Home to help St. Dunstaners across if they are without guides. Any blinded soldier who wishes to cross alone before or after these hours must ask at the Home for an Orderly or V.A.D. to accompany him.

The tunnel which is being built as a result of negotiations with the Brighton Corporation begun by St. Dunstan's, is being paid for partly by both authorities, and will make it unnecessary for any men ever to cross the road. The men will remain on duty until the tunnel has been built.

This step was taken as an additional safeguard, with a view to rendering further accidents impossible.

The authorities at St. Dunstan's had previously taken every reasonable precaution such as warning the men collectively and individually of the danger of crossing, and particularly telling them to use the Belisha Crossing which, together with special notice boards, had been specially set up at the request of St. Dunstan's.

Head Orderly Hawketts happened to meet Smith only the night before the accident, at this very crossing, and warned him of the danger, telling him to ask for an Orderly or V.A.D. to cross with him, and to be sure to use the Belisha Crossing. But with his usual courage and independence Smith went off for his customary morning walk alone the next day, crossing the road outside the wicket gate, which is some way from the official crossing.

Asked by the Editor of the Review to make a statement on this matter Sir Ian Fraser said: "Modern traffic is terribly dangerous, not only at Brighton, but everywhere. I admire enormously the courage and independence of the blind which enable them to go about alone, and this spirit is so valuable that it must not and will not, I am sure, be damped, even by so tragic an accident as that which we have just suffered in the death of Sidney Smith. But if we move about alone, we must take every precaution and in particular we must go to known crossings and places where there

are Belisha Beacons and wait until somebody helps us across, or until we are satisfied beyond all possible doubt that the road is empty.

"St. Dunstan's will do what it can to alleviate the bereavement of Mrs. Smith and her two children, and all my comrades will sympathise with her. Smith died through making light of his blindness—a lesson to us all, but at the same time an example we must all admire."

Miss Zoe Stein

ST. DUNSTANERS will hear with the deepest regret of the death of Miss Zoe Stein which occurred in London on June 5th following an operation for appendicitis.

Miss Stein was a V.A.D. at the Bungalow in the early days. She was one of our finest coxes and many men will recall her rescue in 1919 of her Bungalow "four"—A. J. Porter, G. Swindell, E. P. Horan and D. O. Evans—when their boat was swamped on the Thames and overturned. The September, 1919, REVIEW said: "It might have proved a very disastrous affair had it not been for the pluck and presence of mind of the cox—Miss Stein—who although fully dressed, swam about the upturned boat, placing the men in position and keeping them there until the police boat arrived and rescued them."

Later Miss Stein went to the old Brighton Home for a time. Even when she ceased serving as a V.A.D., however, her interest in St. Dunstan's never flagged and year after year she gave her valuable services freely in connection with the regatta, and we had looked forward to seeing her again this year.

A Cremation Service was held at Golders Green and Drummer Downs, A. Craigie and J. Harrison, attended. Mrs. Harrison, who was Miss Naylor, a V.A.D. worker and friend of Miss Stein, Miss Paget and Sister Peacock represented the V.A.D.s.

Among the many wreaths were a poppy wreath from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's "in remembrance of a much valued friend," a floral wreath "In affectionate remembrance of a fellow sportsman from St. Dunstan's Sportsmen"; another from the Rowing men "In loving memory from the members of St. Dunstan's Rowing Club"; and another "In affectionate remembrance from her fellow V.A.D.'s"

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

General Sports Day

24th June, 2 p.m.

WE hope that all taking part will assist us by arriving on the ground sharp to time. The children's races will begin promptly at 2 o'clock.

ORDER OF EVENTS

1. Children's races: 2-4, 4-6, 6-9, 9-12,
2. Shield events [12-15.
3. Heats of sprint
4. Ladies' surprise race
5. Ladies' egg and spoon race
6. Final of sprint
7. Three-legged race
8. Throwing the cricket ball
9. Throwing the football
10. Single jump
11. Putting the weight

St. Dunstan's Regatta, 1939

Important Notice

IN view of representations that had been made to him by Mr. G. Oliver Nickalls and others, that St. Dunstan's must take the responsibility of the blinded soldiers' fitness for rowing, the Chairman appointed a Committee consisting of Doctors and Rowing Blues familiar with St. Dunstan's to advise him.

It had been represented to him that the possibility of overstrain of the heart in men whose age was increasing, but whose keenness was undiminished, should in some way be safeguarded.

The Committee consisted of Mr. Walter Howarth, F.R.C.S. (Chairman of St. Dunstan's Medical Advisory Board), Dr. Malcolm Donaldson (Member of St. Dunstan's Medical Advisory Board, and himself an old Rowing Blue), Dr. Chittenden Bridges (St. Dunstan's Medical Officer) and Mr. G. Oliver Nickalls and Mr. George Drinkwater, both of whom are Rowing Blues who have for some years been associated with St. Dunstan's.

After careful consideration of the possibilities the Committee recommended as follows:

1. All rowing men should be medically examined immediately after a strenuous practice row, and then again after half-an-hour's interval in order to assess the rapidity of return of the heart to normal. Those who did

not reach the required medical standard would not be allowed to take part in the Regatta.

2. All men taking part in the Regatta must belong to a centre where such medical examination can be carried out.

3. All men on reaching the age of sixty should cease to compete in the Regatta.

4. The Regatta course at Putney to be shortened.

5. The number of events in which each man may take part to be diminished.

Sir Ian Fraser has expressed his grateful thanks to the Committee for their work, has approved their recommendations, and has given instructions for them to be carried out.

Examinations will be arranged at the existing St. Dunstan's Sports Centres but individual men not in touch with these centres will not be excluded as special arrangements are being made for them.

Recommendation No. 5 will not be put into operation until it has been thoroughly discussed between now and next year.

In order to give time for these medical examinations it will be essential for all men to send in their entries not later than July 3rd, and no entries can be accepted after that date.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE Regatta will take place at Putney on Wednesday, July 12th, commencing at 1.15 p.m.

Below is a list of events. Please send along your entries to the Sports Office as early as possible to enable us to get the programme arranged. The latest date for accepting entries will be Monday, July 3rd.

No competitor may enter for more than two events excluding cup events. In all events prizes will be awarded according to the number of entries.

PROGRAMME

Inter-Club Cup Events (Brighton, Birmingham, London and Manchester Double Sculls Pair Oars)

Single Sculls, Sections A and B.

Double Sculls (at least one Section B man in each boat.)

Pair Oars (at least one Section B man in each boat.)

One-armed Pair Oars.

Single Sculls, for veterans, 45 years and over. Events for both Sections if numbers permit.

Single Sculls, for totally deaf St. Dunstaners, Sections A and B combined.

Open Fours—The President's Challenge Cup, Presented by Lady (Arthur) Pearson, D.B.E.

“In Memory”

1ST CLASS PRIVATE ALEXANDER TETLEY
(*Royal Air Force*)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of A. Tetley of Huddersfield. A single man, Tetley served in the Royal Air Force for just over two years and was invalided out in December, 1918.

Never strong, as he suffered from heart trouble, he learned mat making and later occupational work and was really only able to carry on with the latter, doing very little at all during the last few years of his life. He had been ill in Hospital but had recovered sufficiently to go to Brighton for a holiday. After spending several weeks at the New Home, however, he was suddenly taken ill on the morning of Sunday, April 23rd, and he died within a few hours.

The body was taken home to Huddersfield for interment in the family grave. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent and we extend our deepest sympathy to his sister, with whom he lived, and her children.

PRIVATE JOHN SHEEHY
(*2nd King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry*)

It is with very deep regret that we record the death of J. Sheehy, of Dover.

Sheehy was wounded at Beaumont Hamel in 1916, as a result of which he lost his sight. A short time afterwards he came to St. Dunstan's when he was trained as a mat maker, but owing to head pains was unable to continue at this work. A little shop, which he and his wife ran, also had to be given up because of his ill-health. Sheehy, however, found many local interests to occupy his time including his work as Chairman and later Vice-Chairman of the British Legion in Dover. He was also a Vice-President of the Kent Council of the British Legion, and a very enthusiastic and valuable worker on the War Pensions Committee. His sudden death on May 21st preceded by only two days' illness was a great shock to a large number of friends.

The funeral took place at St. James's Cemetery and the coffin, which was draped with the Union Jack, was borne on a gun carriage, men of the South Lancashire Regiment acting as bearers, and buglers sounding the Last Post and Reveille at the graveside. There were a large number of members of the British Legion present from the County Executive, the Dover, St. Margaret's and Canterbury Branches, and also his St. Dunstan's friends, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. E. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Fleetwood, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stevens and Mr. and Mrs. J. Bailey. Among the numerous wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades, and also from those St. Dunstan's friends who attended the funeral.

We send our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Sheehy and her sons.

CORPORAL ALBERT KITSON
(*1st Scottish Rifles*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of A. Kitson, of Old Bosham, Chichester.

Kitson was very badly wounded at Cambrai in 1915 when he lost his sight and also part of his left hand. He came to St. Dunstan's a few months later and was taught poultry farming, at which he occupied himself for some time. After a while he gave this up in favour of basket making and worked at this until shortly before his death. At the beginning of May, Kitson came to our Home at Ovingdean for a holiday, but he was only there a few days when he had a sudden heart attack which proved fatal and he died on the 11th of the month.

Kitson was buried in Brighton Cemetery not far from Miss Thellusson's grave. Among those present at the funeral were the Commandant and Matron and several of the men then staying at the Home; also Colonel Lee of the Cameronian Scottish Rifles, to whom Kitson was batman in his Army days. The wreaths included, in addition to one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, one from Colonel Lee, another from the regiment, and another from the men staying in the Home and various officials there.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Kitson and her son and daughter.

PRIVATE SYDNEY WILLIAM SMITH
(*8th Labour Corps*)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death, as a result of an accident, of S. W. Smith of Northwood.

Smith was wounded by a shell explosion at Zillebeke in 1918 resulting in the loss of his right eye and the loss of sight of his left eye. Soon after he was admitted to St. Dunstan's where he was trained in wool rug making and he carried on with this occupation until his death.

Smith was staying at the Brighton Home for his summer holiday but on May 27th while crossing the road near the Home, he was knocked down by a car and died in hospital half an hour later. His tragic death came as a great grief and shock to his wife and family, and his many St. Dunstan's friends.

The funeral took place at Northwood a few days later, Sister Goodey attending from Headquarters. Among the many wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

We send our very deep sympathy to Mrs. Smith and her family.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 254.—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

N OBODY likes to think about wills. Though many are older, the average St. Dunstaner is still well under fifty and has a long time ahead of him. But a prudent man, and particularly one who owns a little bit of property, should think about this subject. Members of my staff at St. Dunstan's tell me that in the last two or three years they have had quite a lot of trouble clearing up some of our late comrades' affairs, and all because no wills were made. You can go to a local solicitor and make a will for a small fee or you can write to us at St. Dunstan's, and we will give you good advice.

Ex-Service Honours and Royal Interest

The ex-service world received two honours in the King's June Birthday Honours List which are of interest to us. One was Captain Donald Simson, C.B.E., who becomes a Knight. He was the founder and organizer of the original British Empire Service League which was the fore-runner of many of our Empire ex-Service men's Organizations, and through which the British Legion, the Canadian Legion, the Australian and New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Leagues, and the South African Service Legion are federated. He is a good friend to the old soldier and we congratulate him.

The other is one of our own St. Dunstaners—Thomas Henry White, of Melbourne, who received the M.B.E. He was at St. Dunstan's from November, 1915, to August, 1916, at the Old House, where he took his certificates for mat-making and basket-making. Soon after he returned to Australia he became Honorary Treasurer of the Victoria Blinded Soldiers' Association, a post he has held ever since. We congratulate White and our Australian friends upon this recognition of work well done.

Three other St. Dunstaners have been in the news recently on account of recognition by members of the Royal Family.

H.M. The King, on his visit to Canada, spoke to a number of St. Dunstaners, but in particular talked for some time to Captain Edwin Baker, who occupies an important place in Canadian life as Managing Director of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and who represents St. Dunstan's in that Dominion.

At Margate H.R.H. the Duke of Kent had a few words with Thomas Edward Gidney, of Morden. The Duke recognized him, and asked where they had met before, when Gidney recalled that he had been a member of a Guard of Honour for the Duke twelve years before. On July 7th, at Liverpool, the Duchess of Kent, after particularly requesting that she and the Duke should call at the British Legion workshop there, spoke to William Shayler, asking him about his work and his war record.

There is hardly a ceremonial parade in the Empire where a St. Dunstan's man is not present, and members of the Royal Family always seem to go out of their way to recognize and greet us.

St. Dunstaners and A.R.P.

I have mentioned before on this page—and have also spoken about it at Reunions—that St. Dunstaners can play their part in connection with National Defence. Many who cannot take an active part can render valuable service by being well-informed. A body of ex-service men in war who are well informed and steady in emergency is a great asset. There are many lectures in all parts of the country which my friends will find interesting and instructive.

I hear this month of three notable cases where St. Dunstaners have done more than inform themselves, they have taken a leading part. One is Charlie Durkin, of Putney, who early this year was appointed Head Warden of the Roehampton Estate, and represented this Section in the King's Review of National Service volunteers in Hyde Park on Sunday, July 2nd. Durkin has fifty trained wardens under his charge and is responsible for the entire A.R.P. organization of the Roehampton Estate, comprising a population of 5,500. Alec Biggs holds the important post of Deputy Group Controller, Air Raid Precautions, for Princes Risborough, and the other St. Dunstaner is Henry George Boorman, of Peterborough, who has qualified as Warden and is now taking the first aid course.

IAN FRASER.

Chairman's Daughter Engaged

THE following announcement appeared in the *Times* on Friday, June 30th, 1939:

MR. A. E. McDONALD and MISS FRASER. The engagement is announced between Anthony, only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. McDonald of Tatsfield, Surrey, and Jean, only daughter of Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, St. John's Lodge, Regent's Park, London.

Miss Jean Fraser is now nineteen years of age. After leaving School she went to Queens College, London, to study domestic economy. She has travelled a great deal with her parents, whom she accompanied on their trip round the world five years ago, and to South Africa this year. She is now working at Home Nursing and First Aid in order to qualify to be a V.A.D.

Mr. Anthony McDonald went to Tonbridge School and Balliol College, Oxford. He then was called to the Bar, where he took a First and a Certificate of Honour in his final examinations. During his early days of practice at the Bar he studied elocution and drama, in which he had been much interested at Oxford. Five years ago Sir Ian applied to various schools of elocution for young men to read for the Talking Book. Mr. McDonald applied for an audition and got the job. He was thus the first Talking Book reader, and many St. Dunstaners and other blind people know his voice well and look upon him as their most popular reader. Later he joined the B.B.C. staff and after a period in London was appointed Drama Producer at the Midland Regional Station. He still reads for the Talking Book but only occasionally now in his spare time.

The Grocers' Federation and St. Dunstan's

AT the annual banquet of the National Federation of Grocers' Associations held at Southampton on June 21st, the President, Mr. T. G. Arnold, F.G.I., handed to Sir Neville Pearson, Honorary Treasurer of St. Dunstan's, a cheque for £2,409, representing gifts from associations all over the country towards the cost of the main floor of the new Brighton Home.

The President said: "The Federation is proud to have been intimately connected with St. Dunstan's practically from its beginning during the Great War. In handing Sir Neville this cheque, it is my privilege to express the prayerful hope of all members that God's blessing will rest upon St. Dunstan's, the men it exists to serve, and all who are connected with it."

Sir Neville Pearson, in thanking the Federation for its continued generosity to St. Dunstan's, said that a sum of more than £2,600 had been contributed in order that the comfort of men who really needed the help might be increased. St. Dunstan's was the most complete and well-equipped organization of its kind in the world and care had always been taken to maintain the standard of life and happiness of the men under its care. The kindly interest of the Grocers' Federation was appreciated to the full. The contributions of the Federation had practically paid for the main floor of the new Home—perhaps the most important floor of all, as this was the hub of the whole building. On this floor there would be a tablet commemorating the generosity of the Federation.

Miss Gracie Fields

ST. DUNSTANERS will hear with the greatest pleasure that Miss Gracie Fields is rapidly recovering after her recent serious operation. On June 20th, Mr. Swain, as Sports Captain, sent her some flowers, on behalf of the men of St. Dunstan's, with this note: "You have given so very many hours of your valuable time making our men happy, but nothing you have done for them has given them greater pleasure than the wonderful news that you are getting better."

Mr. Bert Aza, her Manager, wrote in reply: "Dear Mr. Swain, Gracie has asked me to thank you and everybody concerned for the beautiful flowers sent to her at the Hospital. It was very kind of you to think of her. Gracie is progressing quite well at the moment, although rather slowly, but if she can maintain the progress she has already made, we shall be satisfied."

We Hear That . . .

C. R. Bulman, of Beckenham, and Mrs. Bulman were members of the Sidcup team which has won the Gill Cup, played for under the auspices of the Kent Bridge Association.

☆ ☆ ☆

E. Slaughter, of Wembley, was one of the team of the Century Bowling and Sports Club when its members entertained a number of players from the Concert Artists' Association Bowling Club recently. The game consisted of three rinks and was played for spoons. The Century won comfortably on each of the three rinks. *The Harrow Observer* said: "One of the unusual but pleasing features of the game was the fact that Mr. Edward Slaughter, who is blind and a member of St. Dunstan's, put up an extremely good game. It was extraordinary to see how well a blind man can play bowls."

☆ ☆ ☆

A. E. Bettaney, of 252 Blurton Road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, has eleven Alsatian puppies for sale. Price: Five guineas. They were born on June 23rd. Both parents are prize-winners.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. Collins, of Jarrow-on-Tyne, who celebrated their silver wedding on April 14th, and to Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Skelly, of Batley, whose anniversary was on July 18th.

Personal

OUR attention has been drawn to the following notice in certain London newspapers:

Re JOHN HODGMAN OTHERWISE JOHN LEIGH DECEASED

The above named who was the son of Edward Leigh and was residing in the year 1925 at 49 Cambridge Road, Hammersmith, London, W.6. is believed to have since died leaving one daughter who married a blinded soldier. If she will communicate with the undersigned she will hear something to her advantage. Griffith Smith Wade and Riley, 47 Old Steyne, Brighton 1, Sussex.

News from Australia

ACKNOWLEDGING the receipt of his prize money in the Derby Sweepstake, W. Morton, of Mount Lawley, Australia, writes:—

"I listened with interest to the short-wave description of the race, but would have been more interested in the running of Fairfax had I known the horse was running for me. It is rather a coincidence that the other overseas prize went to Bulawayo. I was there thirty-eight years ago with the Australian Bushmen's Corps, composed of boundary riders, drovers and out-back men mostly. We landed at Beira and came overland to Bulawayo, during which time it seemed a hard try was being made to bring us up to the standard of the Household Cavalry. These Australians, who made the horse their servant in their own country, were now the servants of the horse. However, we reached Bulawayo, the horses in splendid condition, men a bit on the tired side. It was then arranged we should march past the Government Resident. This took place at the Racecourse, where the saluting point was the judges' box opposite the winning post.

"There was only one order given, 'Walk, March'. Someone started to trot, then there was a race for the winning post, enveloped in a dense cloud of dust; our squadron was in the rear. When we pulled up, every bay, brown, grey, chestnut, was the colour of Rhodesian soil, and everybody else including the ladies in the judges' box."

☆ ☆ ☆

Every man who can be a first-rate something—as every man can be who is a man at all—has no right to be a fifth-rate something; for a fifth-rate something is no better than a first-rate nothing. J. G. HOLLAND

Competition Corner

THE first correct solution to last month's cannibal problem, opened by Mr. Banks on July 5th, was sent in by G. Worgan, of Ruardean, Glos., to whom the prize of one guinea is being sent.

Here is the solution :

Rowing cannibal takes cannibal over
R.C. comes back alone
R.C. takes another cannibal over
R.C. comes back alone.
White takes white over
White takes cannibal back
White takes R.C. over
White takes cannibal back
White takes white over
R.C. comes back alone
R.C. takes cannibal over
R.C. comes back alone
R. C. takes last cannibal over.

☆ ☆ ☆

Here is a competition for the holidays.

Five fishermen had respectively 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 fish each. They wanted to sell the fish at a price so that each received the same amount of money. How much did they charge ?

A prize of one guinea will go to the sender of the first correct solution opened. Please mark your envelopes "Competition Corner."

Closing date : September 1st.

Gracie likes the new Home

GRACIE is the 14-year-old daughter of E. Smith, of Bury St. Edmunds. She writes : " I think St. Dunstan's new Home a very beautiful place. The lounge is a fine room with such a nice fire-place where you can pile on the logs and coal. The workshops are light and airy and the work is so beautifully done. The domino room is to my mind the best of all, with such comfy chairs."

A Reminder

As usual, there will be no REVIEW published for the month of August. The next issue will be published on September 15th.

Contributions are always welcomed for the REVIEW, but to ensure publication the following month, they should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of that month.

Physical Training at Home

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) *Leg Ex.*—Hips firm—Foot placing sideways and heels raising.
- (2) *Neck Ex.*—Head Bending Sideways.
- (3) *Arm Ex.*—Arms stretching forward—sideways—upward.
- (4) *Trunk Ex.*—Arms Bend—feet sideways place—trunk turning quickly with arms stretching upwards.
- (5) *Leg Ex.*—Arms Bend—feet full open—outward lunge.
- (6) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride—arms upward stretch—trunk bending backward.
- (7) *Complementary Ex.*
- (8) *Balance Ex.*—Hips firm—knee rest—leg stretching forward.
- (9) *Lateral Ex.*—On the hands down—on one hand turn—leg raising.
- (10) *Abdominal Ex.*—Lying—arms upwards raise—legs raising.
- (11) *Dorsal Ex.*—Feet astride—arms upward stretch—trunk forward bend—arms swinging downwards and backwards.
- (12) *March Ex.*—Hips firm—double mark time with knees raising.
- (13) *Final Ex.*—Hips firm—heels raising and knees bending.
- (1) The exercise as before. Left foot placing sideways but add heels raising before returning to foot in position.
- (2) About six times to each side keeping chin tucked in.
- (3) Keep body still and head erect while doing this exercise and fingers closed when coming into arms bend position.
- (4) Turn from the waist line only, keeping head in centre of arms and not forward.
- (5) Carry the foot outward about 30 to 40 inches, let weight fall over forward knee keep shoulders back during exercise.
- (6) Only bend back very slightly about 6 inches at the most.
- (7) As in Table III.
- (8) Brace up the standing leg and keep thigh parallel to ground when knee is raised.
- (9) Disengaged hand on hip, try to keep hip from dropping towards the ground.
- (10) Don't hold the breath, raise legs slowly to 45 deg. to ground and hold for 2 secs. and lower quietly, reach well up with hands.
- (11) Swing down with strong vigorous movements keeping head and body still—about 6 times will do.
- (12) Raise knees as high as possible using your toes each time feet arrive on ground.
- (13) Done quickly and slowly until body is cool and breathing steady.

St. Dunstaners Volunteer for Blood Transfusion Service

THE first volunteer at Miller's Hospital, Greenwich, in response to the appeal for blood transfusion donors was A. J. Overill, of Charlton. He was accepted and has been registered under Group 1.

Immediately following the broadcast appeal, T. ap Rhys, J. Coupland, and S. K. Jerome offered themselves at Middlesex Hospital and submitted themselves to the blood test. They suggest that other St. Dunstaners might like to assist the movement.

Enquire Within

G. FALLOWFIELD, of Shoreham-by-Sea, makes the suggestion that we should have an inquiry column in the REVIEW. He says that there are many subjects such as getting about alone, learning to swim, putting up shelves, laying crazy paving, where advice would be of great value. His point is that the words of experts fail often because they are too long drawn out and not easily followed whereas a hint from one St. Dunstaner to another would be of much greater use.

It is certainly worth trying, so if you have a query upon any subject, send it along so that other St. Dunstaners can help you out.

The Poetical P.C.

JACK HIGGINS, of Brighton, had some seeds from Headquarters which are showing excellent results. A friend of his, Constable O'Hara, of Brighton, passed his garden on his beat, admired the garden, and this conversation followed.

CONSTABLE: "Your garden is a credit."

J.H.: "It's rain we want. I'll be glad of rain."

CONSTABLE: "The sun that veils itself from the garden will shine again. To be sure it will. The clouds are black, 'tis true indade, but just behind the cloud smiles the blue. Art thou troubled, Jack Higgins?"

J.H.: "Well, Constable O'Hara bhoy, I'll be glad of rain."

CONSTABLE: "God watches and thou wilt have rain and sun, when clouds their perfect work have done."

He Built the "Poor Man's Palaces"

IT was left to a born aristocrat to rescue the "dossers" from their surroundings. This was Lord Rowton, and in this centenary year of his birth, it is interesting to recall that had he died at fifty-two he would be remembered merely as the private secretary of Disraeli. After Disraeli's death, Lord Rowton threw himself energetically into social work.

One evening, sitting in his exclusive West End club, the idea of a "poor man's hotel" came to Lord Rowton. He went to Sir Richard Farrant, chairman of a company erecting dwellings for the middle classes. Farrant told the peer that if the idea was to succeed at all it would have to be done on a big scale. "How much would that cost?" Lord Rowton asked. "£30,000 at least," came the reply. "I am prepared to put up that sum myself," Lord Rowton said.

December 15th, 1892, was the proudest day in Lord Rowton's life, for it saw the formal opening of his dream house. Many said that down-and-outs would not pay sixpence for a bed when fourpence was the usual price. Others argued that the sheer spaciousness and cleanliness of the place would not attract the class for whom it was built. They were all wrong, and Lord Rowton right.

From the opening day, the hotel was a striking success. Between 1896 and 1905 five other palatial Rowton Houses were built in London. To-day the six Rowton Houses accommodate over 5,000 men. The charge is now 1s.—T. CAVANAGH, in *Tit-Bits*.

Do you Get the Most Out of Walking?

The best things in life are free, we are told. Certainly the best exercise is. Walking is the easiest way of keeping fit, and most St. Dunstaners take advantage of that fact.

Road-walking is grand exercise but is naturally confined to the few. Most of our business men make a point of walking a certain distance every day to and from their work. What of men who work at home? Many, we know, try to get out regularly.

How much walking do *you* do every day? How do you get the most out of it? What have been your experiences?

Letters to the Editor

The Editor,
ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW,
DEAR SIR,

I shall be very grateful if I may, through the REVIEW, thank those St. Dunstaners who have sent me parcels of Braille literature in response to my appeal in your columns. In some cases it has been impossible for me to send a personal acknowledgment, because the wrappings have been torn on arrival and I have not known from whom the parcel came. To all those who have sent me parcels of books and periodicals I am extremely grateful.

Yours faithfully,
H. P. PEAREY.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

I am the mother of fourteen children—nine sons and one daughter still living, and four of them serving their country on land and sea.

I wonder if there is another St. Dunstan's mother who can beat my family? If so, bless her, I wish her luck.

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs.) G. LAWLOR.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

My wife and I have four generations—my mother, myself, my daughter, and grand-daughter. My mother-in-law, my wife, my daughter and grand-daughter.

Yours sincerely,
Jarrow-on-Tyne. A. COLLINS.

The Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

DEAR SIR,

I had some friends call to see me the other day and they brought some people with them who had come to England (for a holiday) from Capetown, South Africa. We had a chat for some time about different happenings both here and in Africa, swopping yarns. When the subject changed to, "What and where was I working?" imagine their surprise when I told them my workshop was at the bottom of the garden. They had never seen one before so I took them to have a look round. Then they gave me a surprise. They just turned round to the stock I had on hand and remarked, "We wish to take that, and that, and that back with us to South Africa." The articles were picture trays. I am very pleased to think that some of my work will bring pleasure to someone, somewhere in South Africa, so very many miles away.

Yours sincerely,
Hull. J. S. STEELEY.

Holiday Apartments

Brixham, Devon.—Board residence, or bed and breakfast, Mrs. M. Hall, Westbury, New Road, Brixham, Devon.

Southend-on-Sea.—Apartments, bed or breakfast, full board. Moderate terms. Near sea. Mrs. C. Ray, 79 York Road, Southend-on-Sea.

Weston-super-Mare.—Mrs. Bull caters for bed and breakfast or full board. 62 Southend Road, Weston-Super-Mare.

Whitley Bay.—Apartments or board-residence. Terms moderate. Mrs. W. Muir, Osborne Lodge, Promenade, Whitley Bay.

More Recommended Braille Books

THE following are some more additions to the National Library's Catalogue in which we think St. Dunstan's men might be interested:

Not to be Taken, by A. Berkeley. 3 vols. A story full of excitement and mystery.

Precious Company, by Jackson Budd. 4 vols. A crime story centred round the theft of Russian Crown Jewels.

Murder by Chance, by Peter Drax. 4 vols. A good detective story.

Murder of Mr. Mallabee, by Winifred Duke. 4 vols. On a foggy night, Mr. Lockton, a middle-aged greengrocer is on his way to see his friend Mr. Mallabee the chemist. The next morning Mr. Mallabee's dead body is discovered. A host of questions at once assails the reader.

Ship of the Line, by C. S. Forester. 4 vols.

Bird of Paradise, by E. P. Oppenheim. 4 vols. An exciting story, most of which takes place on a luxury yacht.

This is My Life, by Vernon Bartlett. 4 vols. Reminiscences of the well-known diplomatic correspondent. His experiences in various countries of post-war Europe, his encounters with the great figures of the age, his freely expressed liberal opinions, combine to make an interesting book.

Bible and Spade, by L. Stephen Craiger. 3 vols.

Story of S. T. 25, by Sir P. Dukes. 5 vols.

King's English, by H. W. & F. G. Fowler. 5 vols.

My Fill of Days, by Sir P. Chalmers-Mitchell. 7 vols. A long, full and rich autobiography. Vividly describes experiences of the Civil War in Spain—1936-39.

The Corn is Green, A Play, by Emlyn Williams. 2 vols. A moving and intensely interesting play. The scene is laid in a mining village in Wales.

The Life of the Dockers' M.P., by Sir James Sexton. An important document of the history of the Labour movement in Britain; a story which will appeal to all readers who like the autobiographies of unusual people who have led unusual lives.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

BERRY.—To W. H. Berry, of Belfast, whose wife passed away on June 22nd after a long illness.
HEALY.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. Healy, of Bradford, Manchester, whose son, John, died on June 15th, after a long illness, aged 24 years.

Young St. Dunstaners

Eileen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Milner, of Liverpool has passed the Elementary Grade 2 and Transitional Grade 3 of the Royal School of Music, while her little sister Elizabeth aged 9, has passed the Preliminary Examination.

☆ ☆ ☆

The son of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Sparkes, of Grimsby, was married on June 24th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Margaret, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Thomson, of Sprotborough, has secured the West Riding County Minor Scholarship which will take her to Doncaster High School until she is sixteen. Her three brothers have already passed the same examination—all at the age of ten. Is this a record for a family?

☆ ☆ ☆

The two sons of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Lloyd, of Cardiff, have both been successful in passing the High School examination.

☆ ☆ ☆

Marjorie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Forrester, of Maryhill, Glasgow, was married at the Georgic Restaurant, Glasgow, to J. Armstrong Fraser on July 15th.

☆ ☆ ☆

Rosie Hills, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Hills, of Ramsgate, was married on the 24th of June to Mr. R. J. Castle at St. Peter's Church, Ramsgate.

☆ ☆ ☆

The son of our late St. Dunstan G. H. Wootley, who is now the step-son of our present St. Dunstan, W. H. Collins, of Sompting, has been awarded a Certificate by the Management of Worthing High School.

☆ ☆ ☆

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Best, of Birmingham, is doing remarkably well at the Albert Hall School of Dramatic Art. In her recent examinations, she has passed in all subjects, obtaining honours in two, and in "History of Costume" she obtained 100% with the comment from the examiner, "an extra special paper."

☆ ☆ ☆

Bernard, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hudson, of Brighton, has won a scholarship which will take him to a Secondary School in September. His sister Audrey is training to be a hairdresser.

Mary, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Young, of Glasgow, has taken the Higher Leaving Certificate and scholarship enabling her to remain at school for another year.

☆ ☆ ☆

Lucy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, of Shirley, Birmingham, has passed the entrance examination for Sparkhill Commercial School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Olive, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Griffiths, of Coventry, has won a scholarship to attend a Secondary School until she is 16.

☆ ☆ ☆

Ernest, son of G. Moore, of Folkestone, has been awarded a special place at Old Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone. He is not yet eleven.

☆ ☆ ☆

Noreen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, of Stourbridge, has been awarded a special place at Stourbridge County High School.

☆ ☆ ☆

Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Walden, of Streatham, has passed her preliminary examination for the Junior County Scholarship. She was the baby of the group, being only two days too old to sit for the next examination in six months' time.

☆ ☆ ☆

Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Clamp, of New Bradwell, has obtained a post with an insurance company at Wolverton.

Herself is She

I did not know her in soft childhood days,
Nor treasure memories of girlish ways;
Her winsome maiden charms were never known,
But now I distantly adore her throne.

I did not see her lovely eyes of blue,
Serene, yet dancing with the spring anew;
The glorious smile, so human, so divine;
But now afar, I kneel before her shrine.

She did not seek the pinnacle of fame,
The Matron's gown, the golden-lettered name;
These thrust themselves upon her unaware,
Dissolving pleasure in a duteous care.

I do but know her spirit and her grace,
As every blinded servant of her race;
And these content. Yet know I sympathy;
And knowing pray, herself she'll always be.
Herself is she.

Decline of the Barrel-Organ

ONE street entertainment that has all but passed is the barrel-organ; and with it, its own type of music—the tune that was caught up and whistled. Because he will not, or because he cannot, no composer of to-day produces it.

A night or two after the Coronation, when the streets were still a show, I walked with the crowd from the Abbey to Trafalgar Square. Half-way along Whitehall an impromptu procession came towards us, marching in the middle of the road; lads and lasses to the number of two or three hundred, mostly waving flags and all of them singing energetically. And their marching song was a heritage from the nineties—a song from the great days of variety:—

Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer do!
I'm half crazy, all for the love of you!
It won't be a stylish marriage—
I can't afford a carriage—
But you'll look sweet
Upon the seat
Of a bicycle made for two!

In Trafalgar Square was also vociferous melody, proceeding chiefly from the plinth of Nelson's column whereof, thick as her-rings in a barrel, the merry-makers had taken possession. Tight as they were wedged, they danced as well as sang; pranced rather, since all they could do was to lift up their feet and set them down on exactly the same spot of plinth. And here, also, rang upon the midnight air the appeal to Daisy, "Give me your answer, do!" Two of the items that succeeded "Daisy Bell" were "The Old Folks at Home" and a war-time favourite.

The fact that a crowd of young people in 1937 fell back on old tunes in their day of rejoicing is not surprising, when one thinks of it—there are no new tunes to sing! One of the arts that is dead or dormant in England to-day is the art of writing melody that can be whistled or sung by the multitude.

The noises of the crooner are, no doubt, in a certain sense popular, but they have to be left to the expert. There is nothing left for the boy in the street to catch hold of. Curious, this absence of English tunefulness, to those who remember the regularity with which music-hall and musical comedy used to turn out successive melodies for

public consumption. *Oh, Mr. Porter, The Old Bull and Bush, Tommy Atkins, At Trinity Church I Met My Doom, The Man That Broke the Bank, and Her Golden Hair was Hanging Down her Back*—we were never without something like that, something the gallery and the street took delight in. In time, with repetition, they become a thorough nuisance, but not such a nuisance as your neighbour's set heard through your neighbour's open window. The street boy moved on with his *Old Bull and Bush*, but the radio jazz is immovable.

In spite of the fact that no one composes melodies for general use, it is obvious that the singable melody is liked by the younger generation—which not only chants it at seasons of public rejoicing, but will usually listen when the B.B.C. provides programmes of bygone variety. For all the pleasure it takes in crooning, the younger generation would, I believe, be glad of an occasional song, if it could get one.

And with the singable melody there has almost died out the barrel-organ—the principal agency whereby it was disseminated; when one comes across a barrel-organ nowadays it is usually adorned with a placard explaining that the grinder is an ex-service man without pension, or that the organ is his sole means of supporting a wife and several children. As an institution it has sunk to the level of the match-box proffered from the gutter; it is merely a method of evoking charity, whereas once it was a genuine entertainment of the town.

Until a few years ago the organ-grinder had his regular beat in residential quarters—would come along at much the same time on a Tuesday, a Thursday, or a Saturday. I wonder if there are any London by-ways where you can still see a good-natured grinder turning his handle while the children of the neighbouring tenements dance to his playing? Probably not, but in times gone by that ballet of the streets was a frequent sight in the poorer parts of London.

Perhaps the police have discouraged the barrel-organ to the point of extinction; perhaps the music of the radio has rendered its services unnecessary. Whatever the reason, it is a fast disappearing quantity; its place is being taken, to a certain extent, by little bands of instrumentalists, who parade the gutter while one of their

number shakes a box. Here again the element of charity mingles very strongly with the element of entertainment; the box that is shaken to invite your pence will be labelled "Ex-Service Men," or "Unemployed Musicians." Some, at least, of those unemployed musicians are cases of genuine distress, men brought down to something near begging through no fault of their own; men who earned their livelihood in the orchestras of theatres or of picture palaces until they were ousted by the remorseless inventor whose canned music was cheaper than their services.

Cicely Hamilton, in "Modern England", (J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd.)

National Egg Laying Test

REPORT for the ninth period of four weeks, May 22nd to June 18th, 1939:—

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Test score value</i>
1	Carpenter, E. H. ...	920
2	Holmes, P. ...	846
3	Holmes, P. ...	795
4	Fisher, T. M. ...	778
5	Campbell, J. ...	760
6	Woodcock, W. G. ...	739
7	Benning, A. ...	735
8	Jarvis, A. ...	733
9	Chaffin, A. ...	730
10	Hill R. E. ...	706
11	Chaffin, A. ...	702
12	Knopp, H. A. ...	685
13	Jackson, G. C. ...	676
14	Hammett, H. A. ...	660
15	McLaren, D. ...	604
16	Smith, W. Alan ...	589
17	Jackson, G. C. ...	558
18	Pink, A. ...	514
19	Smith, W. Alan ...	484
20	McLaren, D. ...	472
21	McIntosh, C. ...	462
22	Brown, M. Watson ...	447
23	Powell, G. ...	386
24	Webb, W. ...	337

Position of the No. 1 birds for the 9th Month:

R.I.R.	3825	A. Benning	172 eggs	170 score
W.W.	3939	A. Chaffin	173 eggs	170 score
W.W.	3957	P. Holmes	171 eggs	170 score

☆ ☆ ☆

A. Jarvis, of Arborfield, near Reading, has started on a year's probation as an Accredited Breeding Station in Berkshire.

The Maidenhead Stroll

MR. Roberts and the town of Maidenhead certainly arranged a great reception for us when St. Dunstan's Strollers met at Maidenhead Station on May 21st. We found the entire station square packed with uniforms. A full military band headed the procession complete with drum major and leopard skins, a detachment of the regular army, territorials, the fire brigade, the Auxiliary Fire Service, the Women's Auxiliary, V.A.D.'s, Boy Scouts, British Legionaries and Uncle Tom Cobby and all. We felt that this was perhaps a little over-elaborate even for St. Dunstan's Lance Corporals, until we were informed our visit had coincided with a big military church parade.

Well, we all started off very briskly until we were clear of the town and the admiring crowds, when we fell back into our strolling stride, and walked in twos and threes. The country was very beautiful, and the woods full of bluebells. About lunchtime we found ourselves near the old "Bell Inn" at Waltham St. Lawrence, so we strolled in and had a little light refreshment. We were just in time, for no sooner had we been served and were seated in the little oak panelled parlour, when a battalion of tanks drew up outside, and the crews, looking very businesslike in their overalls and berets, invaded "The Bell" at the double, and the froth from the beer obscured the sunlight. After the tank invasion came a flock of mixed cyclists, i.e. males and females of the species. These creatures make an interesting study of Natural History, the females being detected by the shortness of their shorts, whereas the males are noticeable for the length of their pants (when pushing their opposite numbers up hills).

We eventually moved off from "The Bell" as we felt it was only kind to leave something for the poor cyclists, and after rambling through more pretty lanes we arrived at White Waltham in time to do justice to an excellent tea. After tea we played an extremely complicated and intelligent game of cards, at which I am pleased to say the best brains won(?) We then said good-bye to our kind hostess and once more shepherded by our good friends Mr. Robert and his popular daughter, we slowly wended our way to Maidenhead station where we said "Here's to the next Maidenhead Stroll." J.J.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Walks

Important Notice

Will walking members who wish a walking programme to be arranged for this winter's season please send in their names to the Sports Office as early as possible to enable the Committee to make arrangements according to the number of members interested.

Sports Meeting

The annual Sports Meeting to discuss the winter programme (sports, walks, socials, etc.) will take place at Headquarters on Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7 p.m.

General Sports Day, 1939

THE Annual General Sports were held on Saturday, June 24th on the Sports Ground in Regent's Park. The weather on this occasion was very cold and overcast, but the rain fortunately held off until the programme was completed.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser attended the Sports in the afternoon and met and welcomed St. Dunstaners and their families.

The Inter-Club Team Event for the Sports Cup was won by Manchester with London a close second. After close competition throughout, the final placings and points were as follows:—Manchester, 11; London, 9; Brighton, 4.

Our warm congratulations to Manchester on this splendid achievement.

The St. Marylebone British Legion Band once again played a delightful programme of music throughout the afternoon, and our grateful thanks are extended to them. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Pinder for the amplification of announcements and programme of gramophone records during the prize-giving period.

After a well served and greatly appreciated tea indoors at Headquarters, Lady Fraser very kindly distributed the prizes on the lawn to the successful competitors.

To conclude a very pleasant and enjoyable time, Sir Ian in an appropriate speech thanked all helpers and staff who had contributed towards the success of the afternoon.

It will be noticed that the results appended differ from the Press report owing to the fact that the reporter took down the prize list as arranged for prize awarding instead of the actual finishing places.

Results

INTER-CLUB TEAM COMPETITION

1ST MANCHESTER. 2ND LONDON

3RD BRIGHTON

(Manchester Team: T. ap Rhys, J. Greaves, J. Walker, J. Coupland)

75 YARDS SPRINT

A. Section

1. H. Steele
2. J. Walker
3. J. Birley

B. Section

1. W. Birchall
2. S. Webster
3. W. Lacey

CHILDREN

Boys and Girls under 4

1. Anne McQuirk
2. Jeanette Shields
3. Jean McQuirk
4. Paul Loveridge

Girls under 6

1. Marie Lenderyou
2. Mary Loveridge
3. Shirley Selby
4. Jill Clamp
5. Joan Billington
6. Margaret Steel

Girls under 9

1. Mary Ashe
2. Grace Fallowfield
3. Josephine Scott
4. Jean Douglas
5. Lily Barnard
6. Marjorie Triggs

Girls under 12

1. Jean Smith
2. Edith Samworth
3. Marjorie Fallowfield
4. Norah Burrow
5. Freda Bates
6. Brenda Pearce

Girls under 15

1. Yvonne Pearce
2. Brenda Thomas
3. Peggy Smith
4. Avis Peckham
5. Beryl Cook
6. Elaine Martin

Ladies' Surprise Race

1. Miss Burran
2. Mrs. Wiltshire
3. Mrs. Parke
4. Mrs. Ollington
5. Mrs. Edwards
6. Mrs. Ashe

Boys under 6

1. Neville Clamp
2. Derek Scott
3. John Hancock
4. Norman Hunt
5. David Shields
6. Peter Triggs

Boys under 9

1. Ernest Samworth
2. David Loveridge
3. Geoffrey Craddock
4. Sidney Glendennan
5. Leslie Jordan
6. Colin Clamp

Boys under 12

1. John Loveridge
2. Derek Kelly
3. Victor Glendennan
4. Geoffrey Webster
5. Jack Clamp
6. Sidney Moeller

Boys under 15

1. Benjamin Barnard
2. John Henry
3. Joe Shields
4. Ivor Wylie
5. Reuben Shields
6. Albert Samworth

Ladies' Egg and Spoon Race

1. Mrs. Parke
2. Mrs. Wiltshire
3. Mrs. Webster
4. Mrs. Selby
5. Mrs. Deegan
6. Mrs. Ollington

Three-legged Race

1. Mr. Birchall and Mrs. Elvin
2. Mr. and Mrs. Lacey
3. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews
4. Mr. Hancock and Mrs. Selby
5. Mr. Fallowfield and Mrs. Metson
6. Mr. H. Smith and Miss Smith

Section A.

Throwing Cricket Ball

1. T. Meredith
2. T. Roden
3. T. Rouse

Putting the Weight

1. J. Jerome
2. H. Cook
3. H. Walker

Section B.

Throwing Cricket Ball

1. W. Lacey
2. G. Brown
3. A. Hazel
4. S. Webster

Putting the Weight

1. T. ap Rhys
2. G. Brown
3. J. Greaves

Throwing the Football

1. J. Coupland
2. H. Steel
3. { T. Roden
J. Walker
H. Cook,

Single Jump

1. J. Walker
2. { J. Coupland
J. Birley
3. W. Gannaway

Throwing the Football

1. W. Lacey
2. W. Birchall
3. C. Peach
4. T. Dickenson
5. T. ap Rhys

Single Jump

1. S. Webster
2. C. Peach
3. W. Birchall
4. J. R. Brown
5. J. Greaves

SKITTLES COMPETITION

Section A.

1. H. Glendennan
2. W. Rickaby
3. F. Champness

Section B.

1. J. Haylock
2. J. Henry
3. P. F. Robins

Regatta, 1939

ON Wednesday, July 12th, the Annual Regatta was held at Putney. The weather for the occasion was very good indeed.

Miss M. Hamar Greenwood and Colonel R. E. Bickerton were among the distinguished visitors who chatted to the men and watched their efforts on the water. Lady Fraser, as indefatigable as ever, acted as cox in a number of races throughout the afternoon.

The Inter-Club events for Miss Stacey's Cup this year resulted in a tie between London and Birmingham with 10 points each, Manchester being third with 4 points, Brighton filled fourth place.

The London Crew were placed first of the St. Dunstan's crews in the Open Fours event, won in good style again by the Old Blues Four, the winning St. Dunstan's members being W. Robinson, J. Macfarlane, H. Glendennan and W. T. Scott. It was once again a very good race, the judges giving the distance between as $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

The Vesta and Thames Rowing Clubs again extended their hospitality to us in the way of dressing room accommodation, and arrangements for afternoon tea, which were splendid.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson was unfortunately unable to be with us, but very kindly gave the four small cups for the winning President's Cup crew.

An additional event to the programme this year was the coxes' race of fours which was won by Bedford College crew, coxed by "our Miss Gibbs," but only after a grand struggle with the St. Dunstan's "Sisters' Four", coxed by Lady Fraser and stroked

by that hard-working little lady, Miss Morris.

(Full results are given overleaf.)

The Regatta Dinner

IT was a merry company that assembled at the Connaught Rooms for the Regatta Dinner in the evening. Sir Ian Fraser, presiding, said that they had with them Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Carpendale, who was now a member of St. Dunstan's Council, and he would present the prizes. They were also delighted to have with them again their very good friend, Mr. G. O. Nickalls, who had again brought a Four of Old Blues to the Regatta. There were appreciative cheers when Sir Ian referred to Mr. Nickalls' and the Committee's anxiety as to the strain put upon rowers at the Regatta, and the regulations which had been put into force as a result.

Before presenting the prizes, Sir Charles read a telegram which he had just received from Colonel Bickerton expressing his regret at being unable to be present but wishing everyone a successful evening, "good appetites and happy thirsts." Sir Charles said that as a sailor, he had learned his rowing many years ago, but unfortunately they were not so lucky in their coxes as St. Dunstan's men. If lady coxes had been the rule when he was a midshipman, life would have been one long regatta!

Lieut.-Col. Eric Ball expressed the thanks of St. Dunstan's to those who had helped to make the afternoon such a success. He mentioned the police first—"I have always thought it advisable to keep on the right side of them!"—and he went on to thank the coxes, stewards, umpires and judges, Mr. Swain, Sports Captain, and Mr. Dawkins and his own "Blues" who had come along again to help, and last, but not by any means least, Miss Morris. (Cheers.)

Mr. Nickalls said that the regatta was an event to which he looked forward at least three months ahead. He considered it a great privilege to be associated with St. Dunstan's rowing men.

Messrs. Bennett and Williams entertained the company during the evening.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Sports Club will be held on Wednesday, September 13th.

Results

Event	First	Second	Third	
	BIRMINGHAM	LONDON	MANCHESTER	
Inter Club	J. Kimber	J. Macfarlane	J. Coupland	1 L.
Double Sculls	M. Costello	H. Glendennan	T. ap Rhys	
Inter Club	LONDON	BIRMINGHAM	MANCHESTER	
Pair Oars	W. T. Scott	P. Holmes	W. Christian	2 L.
	W. Robinson	W. Trott	R. Edwards	
Pair Oar	W. T. Scott	A. Craigie	W. Trott	$\frac{1}{4}$ L.
	W. Robinson	H. Glendennan	P. Holmes	
Double Sculls	J. Coupland	T. Rouse	J. Kimber	1 L.
	T. ap Rhys	G. Fallowfield	R. J. Williams	
Veterans' Single Sculls (Class B)	A. Craigie	W. Lacey	P. Ashe	2 L.
One Arm Pair Oar ...	J. Jerome	A. Crook		4 L.
	N. Downs	J. Tomlinson		
S. Sculls (Class A) ...	J. Triggs	J. Treby	T. Rouse	1 L.
Deaf Blind Single Sculls ...	G. Fallowfield	R. J. Williams	A. Bedford	3 L.
Single Sculls (Class B) ...	S. Webster	M. Costello	J. Macfarlane	3 L.
V. Single Sculls (Class A) ...	J. Triggs	J. Mellor	P. Cashmore	3 L.
	(Old Blues)			
Open Fours	A. J. Macnabb	W. T. Scott	R. Edwards	$1\frac{1}{2}$ L.
	K. M. Payne	H. Glendennan	P. Nuyens	
	G. O. Nickalls	J. Macfarlane	H. Christian	
	H. R. N. Rickett	J. Robinson	J. Kimber	
	(Miss Morris)	(Miss Jamieson)	(Mrs. Spurway)	
Coxes' Race	Miss Harding	Miss Woolrych	Miss Talbot	$1\frac{1}{2}$ L.
	Miss Hall	Mrs. Irvine	Miss Dowding	
	Miss Garner	Mrs. Spurway	Miss Corney	
	Miss Jamison	Miss F. Morris	Miss Speyer	
	(Miss Gibbs)	(Lady Fraser)	(Miss Cowdell)	

"In Memory"

PRIVATE JOHN BANNISTER
(7th Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment)

With deep regret, we have to record the death of J. Bannister, of Skelmersdale.

Enlisting in the early stages of the War, namely, September, 1914, Bannister was wounded in 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's two months later. He was trained as a boot repairer and clog-maker, and later as a mat-maker. He carried on at these trades for a number of years, although almost from the outset he suffered from rheumatism and kindred ailments. This trouble increased, and eventually necessitated his curtailing his work, and of late years he was only able to cope with wool rug-making.

Bannister had returned home from a stay at Brighton, from which he seemed to have greatly benefited, when he had a bout of his old trouble. After some weeks appendicitis supervened and he died in hospital shortly after the operation.

Amongst the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. The funeral was attended by representatives of the British Legion, the R.A.O.B., the Comrades' Association, and the Skelmersdale Old Prize Band. Mrs. Dunphy, and a fellow St. Dunstaner, J. Calvert, also attended.

We extend our sympathy to his children, who are now left orphans, and particularly to his daughter, Mrs. Stringman, who cared for him, and whose first baby was born just at the time of her father's death.

PRIVATE HORACE HENRY HOWLINGS
(3rd Northamptonshire Regiment)

We have heard with the deepest regret of the death of H. H. Howlings, of Leyton.

Howlings had the misfortune to lose his sight a few months after joining the service, but did not come on to our benefits until 1929 when his health was so bad that he was unable to take up any form of training.

His health has failed gradually ever since and he passed away May 19th, 1939.

The funeral took place at Ilford Cemetery and among the many wreaths was one from Sir Ian and St. Dunstan's comrades.

He leaves a widow and two daughters, to whom we send our very sincere sympathy.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 255.—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

OWING to rationing of paper and the need in war time for general economy we shall publish the REVIEW in future on cheaper paper and perhaps it will be reduced in size. We shall try, therefore, to make what does appear in it interesting and informative, but it will be more of a bulletin and less of a magazine. I hope all St. Dunstaners will try and read the REVIEW regularly because if I felt sure that they were doing this, the staff and I could rely upon notices appearing in the REVIEW coming to the attention of all, and this might save a good deal of circular letter writing.

Let me say a general word on the subject of the word "economy" so that my friends will understand and not misunderstand my use of it. St. Dunstan's hopes to raise large sums of money during the war for the conduct of its welfare work for the veterans of the Great War as well as for its activities as a hospital and training centre for any young fellows who join our ranks. But I do not judge that the time is ripe for us to make a new appeal on a big scale until new cases actually begin to come in to St. Dunstan's and the public conscience is aroused to the tragic facts of war.

This does not reflect upon the public conscience, which is kindly, sympathetic and generous, but is merely recognition, I think, of human nature. We ourselves used to say in the old days in another connection, "What the eye doesn't see the heart doesn't grieve about," and it is true, I am sure, to say that public response to any St. Dunstan's appeal will be the more lively when the need is shown to exist. We are living in a new and experimental age. The war will change many things and no man can judge what will be possible or impossible. One thing is quite certain, namely that the circumstances of the next few years, though similar in some ways, may be very different indeed in others to 1914-1918.

Until we have established by the passage of months or even a year that voluntary collections are possible and that St. Dunstan's appeal is successful, we must husband our resources. I have already said that I think it is our duty, and I feel all my comrades will agree with me, to do everything we reasonably can for any young fellows who are blinded in the country's service. To make ready to help them we must use our existing resources. If we do not do this but neglect our duty and are not ready, or do not care for the newly blinded in a proper manner, then the good name of St. Dunstan's will suffer severely in the public mind, and support for our organization, whether for its new or for its old work will not be forthcoming. It is therefore a matter of practical concern and interest to all veteran St. Dunstaners that we should make an outstanding success of our work, and I know all will co-operate to this end.

Economy does not mean that we are cutting down our benefits to existing St. Dunstaners. On the contrary, so far as possible, all our services will go on and many new

services to help St. Dunstaners who have been evacuated or who have lost their jobs, or whose interests have been affected by the war will have to be rendered. Already the Welfare staff here are busy dealing with many matters of this kind. Economy does mean the careful use of all our resources, avoidance of waste in any form, and tolerance by all when things are done more simply and, in some cases, a little more slowly than has been our custom.

At a conference held nearly a year ago between St. Dunstan's and representatives of the Directors General of Medical Services in the Admiralty, War Office, Air Force and Ministry of Pensions, it was agreed that in the event of war, St. Dunstan's should be the national centre for the full care of the war-blinded. Many St. Dunstaners will remember No. 2 London General Hospital and that most serious eye cases were concentrated there. There will be no No. 2 London General this time but St. Dunstan's is to combine a hospital for serious eye cases with an establishment for training, settlement and after-care. Thus, treatment and learning to be blind will run hand-in-hand. The Home at Ovingdean is being converted into a hospital. Surgeons and Sisters from Moorfields, the most famous English eye hospital, are already in attendance there. At the present time and until the Hospital fills up with patients, a great many beds will be available for old St. Dunstaners. At the moment we are retaining forty-two beds for this purpose. If St. Dunstan's follows to any extent the development of the last war, the time will come when we shall have to increase our buildings to provide a school for teaching Braille, typewriting and shorthand, telephone operating, massage, and other occupations, and we may have to provide convalescent homes in different parts of the country as in the last war. St. Dunstaners may be assured that we shall try and foresee the problem and keep the accommodation ahead of the demand, so that we may always be in a position to give both old and new every assistance. I do not think it will be possible for ordinary holiday periods to be enjoyed in our Convalescent Homes but we shall make provision to have accommodation for the following categories :

1. St. Dunstaners who are old, lonely and unfit to live at home, and who thus qualify for a permanent place.
2. Men who are damaged in air raids or in any other accident of war and who need treatment or convalescence.
3. Men who are temporarily dispossessed of their homes by war and must come to us for a brief time before they are re-settled.
4. Sick men who need a brief period of convalescence.

Thus it will be seen that the great new responsibility with which the Government has entrusted us will be carried out progressively, and at the same time the principal and essential services that have always been rendered to the old St. Dunstaners will be maintained, and adapted to meet new conditions.

We shall make mistakes—every human organization does this. There will be delays and difficulties. But we will all do our best, and I am sure all our friends will help us.

One thing I want to make abundantly clear. While it is our duty to carry out the new responsibilities entrusted to us by the Government, we do not intend, except so far as it is necessary to start a new organization going and maintain essential services, to utilize St. Dunstan's money in a manner which would threaten the first object for which we were founded, namely, the life-long welfare of the men who were blinded in the country's service in 1914-18. As you know, I am myself a 1914-18 man, and I will stand by my old comrades whatever may happen.

IAN FRASER

Her Majesty's Birthday

The following telegram was sent to Her Majesty the Queen on August 4th :

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, BALMORAL.

The blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen of St. Dunstan's wish Your Majesty many happy returns of the day.

IAN FRASER, Chairman.

The following message was received by Sir Ian Fraser in reply :

The Queen has received with much pleasure your congratulations on her birthday and sincerely thanks all who joined in this message.

STREATFEILD.

Bee Keeping

F C. FLEETWOOD, of Herne Bay, in the spring of this year started bee-keeping. As far as we know, the only other St. Dunstaner who has taken up this interesting hobby is Jerry Jerome who has gone in for it very extensively and successfully.

Now Fleetwood writes:

"The Kent Bee-Keepers' Association arrange during the summer months for outdoor lectures and demonstrations by the County Lecturer, Mr. Judge, who is recognized as the greatest authority on bee-keeping in the county. We were asked whether we would like such a demonstration in our garden. Naturally we jumped at the chance. There were twenty beekeepers here. When Mr. Judge arrived, he asked whether there was anything in particular we would like him to do and we said that we would like him to strip the hive and give his criticism on our management of it. This he did, and very soon we had a cloud of bees flying about (there are about 60,000 bees in a colony) and the hive was dismantled. Naturally, we had made one or two small mistakes but there was nothing which called for censure.

"My wife and I do all the work between us and I have actually handled a frame of bees from the brood chamber, which is one of the most jealously guarded parts of the hive. I used to be terrified of bees. I now realize how foolish that was and have a real liking for them.

"If any of my St. Dunstan's pals are thinking of taking it up, I say good luck to them."

Competition Result

THE first correct solution to last month's "Fishermen" competition, opened on September 1st, was sent in by J. A. Dunlop, of Midlothian, to whom the prize of one guinea is being sent.

The correct solution was as follows: The fish were sold at 4d. per dozen and twopence each was charged for each fish over the dozen.

A Correction

THERE was an error in the last REVIEW in respect of the Alsatian puppies which A. E. Bettaney has for sale.

The price should have been 50s. and 70s. Bettaney still has four left. His address is 232 Blurton Road, Fenton, Staffordshire.

"The Case is Altered"

IF a Londoner said to you: "Meet me at the Rose and Crown, old boy," he would give you forty-four alternatives in the Greater London area. He might make things much more confusing if he chose one of the hundreds of taverns named after our ancient aristocracy. On the other hand, if he suggested a date at "The Case is Altered," you couldn't fail to connect with him in the Harrow Road.

"The Case is Altered" is a pretty odd name for a pub, but is it any odder than the "Who'd a Thought It," which can be found in Timbercroft Lane in the South-East district?

Bethnal Green boasts a queer pub tally in "Blade Bone," but they go one better farther East with the "Five Bells and Blade Bone."

The East of London, like the East proper, is full of these mysteries. How did the "Cat and Mutton" get together in Broadway Market? What is the origin of the "Eagle and Child" in E.7? Who was the sombre fellow who gave his name to the "Grave Maurice" in E.14?

"Live and Let Live" in the Romford Road is perhaps slightly less puzzling. One can imagine one of the patrons shouting the words to his disapproving "Missus" should she poke an inquisitive nose round the swing-door. The whole company might chant it when the landlord utters his traditional "Time, gentlemen, please."

Up round the Clerkenwell Road and in the East Central District the pubs seem to specialize in queer composite names. "Horseshoe and Magpie," "Magpie and Stump," "Salmon and Compasses," make sufficiently odd mixtures. What was the "Old Blue Last" referred to on a sign in Great Eastern Street?

Farther North they compete well with the Clerkenwell oddities. There you will find the "Hassock and Pad" and the "Swan and Pyramids." "Old Parr's Head" has a somewhat sinister sound; imagination conjures a picture of it stuck up for all to see in the days when such human relics were commonly to be seen at focal points of our Metropolis.

Moving to the West, you find "Mother Red Cap" in High Street, N.W.1. She has an errant husband, "Father Red Cap," keeping cheery company on Camberwell

Green. Stanhope Street in the North-West has a "Goat in Boots."

The South-East has a more vivacious tone to its inn titles. There seems to be an affinity between "The Moonrakers" in Great Suffolk Street and the "Pyrotechnists' Arms" on Nunhead Green. The latter would probably like to be near the "Catherine Wheel," way up West in Church Street.

In S.E.7 we find the "Lads of the Village"; that sounds a good spot for a call.

At Hampton the traveller in search of nectar comes to the "World's End"—not such a bad end either if you like to view the world through the glass bottom of a good pewter tankard.

—D. K. WINSLOW in *Men Only*.

National Egg Laying Test

REPORT for the eleventh period of four weeks, July 17th to August 13th, 1939.

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Carpenter, E. H. ...	1104
2	Holmes, P. ...	1037
3	Holmes ...	990
4	Fisher, T. M. ...	960
5	Chaffin, A. ...	919
6	Campbell, J. ...	917
7	Benning, A. ...	882
8	Hill, R. E. ...	872
9	Jarvis, A. ...	866
10	Woodcock, W. J. ...	858
11	Knopp, H. A. ...	797
12	Chaffin, A. ...	788
13	Hammett, H. A. ...	773
14	Jackson, G. C. ...	756
15	Jackson, G. C. ...	675
16	McLaren, D. ...	668
17	Smith, W. Alan ...	648
18	Smith, W. Alan ...	588
19	Pink, A. ...	529
20	McLaren, D. ...	516
21	Brown, M. Watson	504
22	McIntosh, C. ...	491
23	Powell, G. ...	434
24	Webb, W. ...	391

Positions of the No. 1 birds for the 10th and 11th periods.

		10th period	11th period
Holmes, P.	W.L. 3957	195	220
Benning, A.	R.I.R. 3825	192	213
Chaffin, A.	W.L. 3939	191	207

The Warminster Camp

THE second annual camp at Warminster, organized by Miss Oliphant for the men of the Western area, finished upon the night of June 13th literally with a flourish and fanfare of trumpets. That there was only one trumpet, and that actually a cornet, did not matter to the hundreds of visitors to the camp-fire concert.

The scene must have been both emotional and spectacular with the huge fire and the glowing features of the vast throng. The air rang with the sound of the accordion band and the voices of all who joined in the community singing and choruses. Alexander, of Bournemouth, rendered two sentimental ballads, Blakeley an amusing monologue concerning the adventures of Aggie the elephant. J. Back put appropriate touch to the scene by rendering "Let the rest of the world go by". A wilder note of the wide open spaces and camp-fires, was the story of The Strawberry Roan, the unbreakable broncho, rendered by the camp's official buster and so, with the singing of the National Anthem, closed the most memorable night of another memorable camp.

The camp had opened in inauspicious circumstances, rain and wind and rather cold weather trying to dampen and cool the ardour of all, but without success. First, the beds had been soaked but dried out in the laundry. Then the following day, booked as "Boating and Bathing," was spoilt by a torrential downpour, but drove the whole party into the Odeon Cinema, with a pleasant tea to follow in the Cadena Cafe.

This, however, was not to be compared with the hoped-for opportunities for clutching the female forms divine as one deliberately sank for the second time. The weather tried to smile at us on the Saturday when at Hinton Charterhouse, where we were again the guests of the Misses Foxcroft. It rained persistently through a concert party given by the famous "Roosters" and during tea, but cleared up for a space so that the traditional sports and competitions were held in brilliant weather. The most pleasing feature of Saturday was the visit of Sir Ian and Lady Fraser who motored down and met the whole camp assembled for a photograph, later accompanying us to

Hinton Charterhouse. Unfortunately they had to leave before the sports.

On Sunday the weather gave us best, and church parade was held in brilliant sunshine. The Silver Prize Band from Shrewton led the parade and played in the field before and after the service which was held at Christchurch. Our well-known camp chaplain, Mr. Wake, gave a stirring address after Canon Stewart had welcomed us again to his parish.

Then followed a week of strenuous enjoyment, in the organization of which, Miss Oliphant, Miss Jemmet Brown, Miss Marshman, Mr. Wyer and others must have worked like Trojans. On Monday we drove in glorious weather to Bristol Downs where a picnic lunch was enjoyed. This was followed by a tour through Messrs. Wills' tobacco factory—an instructive and illuminating afternoon in which we discovered that twelve different brands of tobacco are required for blending the humble "Woodbine," and followed the process of cigarette manufacture from the raw leaf to the made cigarette. Each member of the party was allowed to feel the "twist" actually being made, and to make a cigarette in professional manner. We were then entertained to tea and presented with tobacco, cigarettes and a fine cigar, and rode home to accept the hospitality also of the Christchurch Juniors at a dance at the Scout Hut. The next morning the perpetual cheeriness of the camp dispersed the clouds, and after an early start a picturesque party sat down to a picnic lunch in the grounds of the famous Longleet and Sheerwater estate. The party was then escorted over the historic house by Mrs. Parker, the housekeeper, who explained the family history, the wonderful portraits in the galleries, furnishings, tapestries, etc. A feature here was to touch the table, leather topped and brass bound, on which the peace treaty following Waterloo was signed. This was followed by an evening visit to the 3rd Batt. Royal Tank Corps, during which we had opportunities of contrasting the comforts of modern barrack-room life with the discomforts of our own soldiering days. The tanks were explained to us in detail, and we then enjoyed the regiment's hospitality in the almost luxurious Sergeants' Mess.

Two smoking concerts, given by the R.A.O.B. and the British Legion, were a complete success, as also was a second

dance given by the Anglican Young People's Association. Here the "Competition" dance was won by Seal of Portesham, who, in company with Miss Mary George, an exhibition dancer and tap dancer of Warminster, won two packets of cigarettes. Seal, having been reported in the *Wiltshire Times*, seems destined for Hollywood.

The Church fete on the Wednesday, for the benefit of Padre Wake's church, was a huge success, from his and our point of view. It was held in the grounds of the beautiful estate of Commander Brocklebank. We all indulged in skittles, and our own little competition at skittles was won by the only (self-styled) gate-crasher, G. Lidbetter, from Brighton, who could sure shoot straight. We must not omit the wonderful afternoon spent on Dr. and Mrs. Hodge's lawn as the guests of the Women's branch of the British Legion. On Friday we were the guests of Mrs. and Major Teichman. Following a tour of the beautiful gardens several of the boys rode Red Mask, a famous hunter. Miss Moody's Red Cross tent in camp was well attended, but truth bids us say more for social than professional reasons. Miss Gauntlet, a last year visitor, was this year a cheery and enthusiastic adjunct to the staff and, like Miss Marshman, a real "live wire." Everybody was delighted to see Miss Pain again.

Well, it is all over, but to Miss Oliphant and all, especially Jim Sherrat and Bill Allen, canteen wallahs, and Night Sisters, we say "Thanks for the memory, we'll be seeing you, next year. Same place, same time, same crowd."

A. V. RADFORD

Idle Moments on a Switchboard

What do I think of in the moments sweet
That interval my work with hurried feet?
What do I think of when at last
The busy morning rush is past?
Does greedy business claim my whole
attention?

Or have I other thoughts too dear to
mention?

There was a precept that I learned at
school

To occupy the mind and keep it full
of noble thoughts. If I should lapse,
And let my mind run free, perhaps
Some evil thing might creep within, and
grow.

And so I keep it busy. Ever so.

St. Dunstan's Masseurs to Help in War

ST. DUNSTAN'S masseurs, in their annual Conference, passed a resolution offering their services to the Government in the event of war. Over seventy of them met at the new Home at Brighton on Saturday, July 22nd, for their annual meeting and week-end Conference.

Mr. Edmund Toft, Chairman of the Massage Advisory Committee, presided.

Referring to war plans for St. Dunstaners generally, Sir Ian Fraser said the first duty of St. Dunstan's should war break out would be to look after their old blinded comrades of the Great War and see that any damage to them or their families or to their professions, handicrafts or occupations, was repaired as quickly and effectively as possible under the circumstances. The next duty which might arise almost immediately would be the care of the men of the Army, Navy and Air Force, and other military or quasi-military organizations, who might lose their sight. The old blinded soldiers, with twenty years' experience, would pledge themselves to teach the young new ones the way to victory over blindness. Preparations to deal with casualties and care for the wounded were no less important than preparations for war itself. To his knowledge, the Ministry of Pensions had its preparations complete or in a very advanced state and they, St. Dunstan's, had co-operated in their own sphere to the utmost.

A message from Major the Rt. Hon. G. C. Tryon, M.P. for Brighton, congratulating St. Dunstan's masseurs on the success of their work and wishing them luck was read.

Lectures and demonstrations were given by the masseurs and a special service in the Chapel was conducted by the Rev. R. M. Raper, St. Dunstan's Chaplain. Mr. Raper took as his text, 2nd Chronicles, chapter 15, verse 7: "Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak; for your work shall be rewarded."

Brief Notes

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Warren, of Macclesfield, became proud grandparents on September 5th. Their daughter has given birth to a son.

F. E. O'Kelly, of Putney, was an early volunteer for the blood transfusion service.

From our Press Cuttings

From the *Shields Gazette*:

Envoy F. Mowtell of Cramlington has become known as a Salvation Army personality, not only because of his affliction—he lost his sight during the war—but by reason of the cheerfulness with which he has borne this handicap. His happy demeanour as well as his speaking ability have served as an example to all who have met him, and the fact that he is to conduct meetings at the Tyne Dock Citadel on Sunday at 11.0, 3.0 and 6.45 should be of interest to local Salvationists.

☆ ☆ ☆

From the *Evening News*:

Blind since birth, a family of two brothers and two sisters, all over 60, have managed a 100-acre farm near Strathroy (Ontario) since 1901.

Until a short time ago the farm was a going concern in every branch of general farming, but the ageing brothers—Frank over 70 and Samuel 63—now work only a few acres of vegetables and use the rest of the land for pasture.

The sisters do all the work of the farmhouse.

☆ ☆ ☆

We print without comment the following description of an invention of a blind civilian, Mr. A. Gosden, which appeared in the *Bournemouth Daily Echo*.

The appliance consists of a walking stick of thin hollow steel, in which a similar stick of small circumference is set, and from which it can be drawn when required for use. The thicker stick would be employed by the blind person as a walking stick, and the second would be used—as Mr. Gosden very effectively uses a second stick—held as a protection in front of him.

In the handle of the second stick would be set a whistle to be used as an S.O.S. when a blind person loses his bearings.

Further down this stick there would be a contrivance which, when put into action, would cause a triangle of material several inches along each side to extend. The idea is that the blind person would hold this in front of him as a recognized signal to road users when crossing from kerb to kerb.

On the walking stick section a small bell would be fixed to warn pedestrians of the user's affliction, which would cause them to give him right of way.

In every stick it was suggested there should be a small fitment to hold the user's bus pass; and the name and address, registered number, also the name and address of his doctor, should be engraved upon the stick itself.

Mr. Gosden is convinced that the sticks could be produced very cheaply by mass production. If they were recognized by the Ministry of Health, and the blind compulsorily trained in their use, he is convinced they would be of infinite benefit to the afflicted.

"A man may build himself a throne of bayonets, but he cannot sit on it."

DEAN INGE

Young St. Dunstaners

John, son of Mrs. Birch and the late W. Birch, has passed an examination to attend Sloane Secondary School.

Edna, daughter of the late W. Davies, of Middlesbrough, has secured her Schools Certificate with credits, and her brother has won a scholarship to enter High School.

Eric, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stratton, of Shirebrook, has passed his final examination for membership of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Gerald, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Raymond, of St. Annes-on-Sea, has obtained a Junior Scholarship for Preston Technical School. He was one of two successful entrants in the Lancashire Counties.

George Stanley, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Spires, of Malvern, has won a scholarship tenable at Hanley Grammar School.

Jack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clamp, of New Bradwell, has won a scholarship to a Secondary School.

Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tanner, of St. Ives, has passed his General Schools examination. After securing the half-mile and mile sprint championship at Penzance School, he carried off the half-mile Town Cup in the recent tercentenary celebrations at St. Ives.

Another young sportsman is Donald, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Greaves, of Oldham. At the age of twelve he has gained three certificates issued by the educational authorities, and has won a free pass to the swimming baths for the next twelve months.

Teresa Bregazzi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bregazzi, of Highgate, was married to Mr. J. Barker, at St. Joseph's Church, Highgate Hill, on August 5th.

Fred, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, has passed his matriculation, with four distinctions.

Mavis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T.

Hazel, of Merton, who is not yet eleven, has passed Grades 1 and 2 (Theory) and Grade V (practical) for the Royal School of Music.

Eileen, the daughter of G. Moore, of Folkestone, has passed an examination which enables her to attend Grange School, Folkestone, until she is sixteen.

William Albert, son of Mrs. Kitson and the late A. Kitson, of Chichester, has gained a First in French in the London University Examination results.

Eileen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Tarry, of Hastings, has gained matriculation exemption as a result of the London General Schools Examination. She has been granted an Intermediate Award that entitles her to two years' further schooling at the High School.

John, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davies, of Llandyssul, has passed his Final Examination and is now qualified to start work as a schoolmaster.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Gardiner, of Hove, was married in London on August 5th.

Gladys Back, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Back, of Shaldon, was elected Carnival Queen at Shaldon's Carnival Festivities.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Power, late of Waterford, Ireland, was married at St. Ignatius Church, Tottenham, on August 6th to Mr. L. Charlesworth. Mrs. Butler, the wife of a St. Dunstaner, came over from Waterford for the ceremony. After a brief honeymoon, the bridegroom left to join his regiment.

Births

HORNER.—To the wife of R. Horner, of Nether Thong, on August 25th, a daughter.

POTTS.—To the wife of H. S. Potts, of Coombe Martin on July 25th, a daughter—Adrienne.

PRICE.—To the wife of A. Price, of Enfield, a son.

Death

BOLTON.—We offer our sincere sympathy to P. Bolton, of Stockport, whose mother with whom he lived, passed away on August 6th.

Marriage

CONROY-O'CONNOR.—On the 5th July, M. J. Conroy, of Cork, to Mrs. Mary O'Connor.

“In Memory”

FREDERICK STEWART OWEN
(1st S. A. Infantry)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of F. S. Owen of Johannesburg, South Africa. He passed away peacefully on the 1st August from heart failure. Although he had not been in good health for some weeks, his death was unexpected.

Owen served in the South African War and in the Great War. He was at St. Dunstan's in 1919 and 1920 and many St. Dunstaners will remember his marriage to one of St. Dunstan's V.A.D. Quartermasters, then Miss A. Stevenson. Many will remember, too, their visit to England last year, when they met a number of their old friends at Headquarters.

Owen was a man of fine character and indomitable courage and he will be greatly missed by his St. Dunstan comrades in South Africa and by ex-servicemen's societies and Toc H in Johannesburg, of which he was an energetic member.

The funeral was attended by a number of ex-service men, St. Dunstan's being represented by Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Kirstein and Mr. J. J. O'Connor. There were many beautiful wreaths.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Owen.

PRIVATE JOHN BATES
(12th Royal Defence Corps)

With deep regret we have to record the death of J. Bates, of Salford, who, during the Great War served in the 12th Royal Defence Corps, but previous to this had seen many years' service both in England and abroad.

Bates was not a young man when he came to St. Dunstan's in 1919, but he did very well at poultry farming and netting. He was not able to carry on, however, and for some years his health had given cause for anxiety. His death, which occurred at the home of his sister on the 8th August, was unexpected—he was spending a holiday period with her before returning to the Brighton Home for the winter.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent from London and we extend our deepest sympathy to his children and his sister, Mrs. McArthur.

PRIVATE JAMES WILLIAM OGILTREE
(73rd Canadian Regiment)

We have learned with deep regret of the death of J. W. Ogiltree, of Toronto, Canada.

We had not heard from him for some time, but nevertheless the letter from his wife telling us that he had died on July 8th came as a shock.

Ogiltree came to St. Dunstan's in May, 1918. He had received multiple injuries at Lens in 1917. He was trained both here and at Pearson Hall in Canada, but for many years suffered from ill-health and consequently only carried on with lighter occupations such as basketry and netting.

He will be remembered by many men at the Bungalow and on behalf of his comrades in England we extend to Mrs. Ogiltree and their five children our deepest sympathy.

PRIVATE WILLIAM H. MANNING
(Leicestershire Regiment)

We deeply regret to record the death of W. H. Manning, of Tooting.

Manning enlisted in 1914 and went through the War, being demobilized in 1919. As a result of his wounds his sight began to fail and in due course he came to St. Dunstan's where he was taught mat making. He carried on with this work until early this year, when owing to ill-health he had to cease.

The funeral was attended by relatives and some of his St. Dunstan's friends, and also by a representative of the Branch of Oddfellows of which Manning was a member. Among the many wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Manning and her family in their great loss.

GUNNER SAMUEL COWEN
(Royal Field Artillery)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of S. Cowen, of London Fields.

Cowen served in France and was wounded in 1916. Shortly afterwards he came to St. Dunstan's where he was trained as a boot repairer and mat maker. He carried on with these occupations for many years but had latterly taken things more easily. For some time he had not been feeling very well and had suffered from fits of depression during one of which he died on July 15th.

The funeral was attended by relatives and various St. Dunstan's friends. Among the many wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Cowen and her family in their great loss.

PRIVATE DAVID WALTER RICHARDS
(Welsh Regiment)

We record with deep regret the death of D. W. Richards, of Wyesham, Mon.

Richards served in France for three years when he was severely gassed and wounded. After some time his sight began to deteriorate and he was then admitted to St. Dunstan's.

He was, however, never well enough to carry on with any occupation and latterly his health had been very poor indeed. Nevertheless his death was a great shock.

The funeral took place at Wyesham, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Richards and her family in their great loss.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 256—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

OCTOBER, 1939

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

LAST month I outlined our policy to care for old St. Dunstaners and make preparations to give a proper start to new St. Dunstaners when they come. This month I will fill in a few details.

But first let me say how grateful I am to many of my friends for their letters of encouragement and for their understanding of our problems. St. Dunstaners generally seem to be adapting themselves to the many alterations of daily life which the War imposes upon all citizens, with calm and fortitude and with a high sense of responsibility. Many have difficulties to overcome, but their own initiative, and sometimes the advice or assistance of St. Dunstan's, has in most cases found a solution. I have letters asking my advice about all sorts of subjects. I have read them all personally and have given the best counsel I can. I hope my friends will continue to write to me as I want to share their troubles with them and bring the great influence of St. Dunstan's to bear upon their problems whenever this is possible.

I said last month that we had already placed forty-two beds in the Hospital at Ovingdean at the disposal of old St. Dunstaners. Since I wrote we have extended the number. The place is rapidly filling up now, every bed is available to be used by old St. Dunstaners who need it except one ward, which we are keeping on one side for any emergency. Accordingly, any who feel they have a claim to a period of treatment, convalescence or change at Brighton may apply to the Welfare Department confident that practically the normal number of beds will be available and that their application will be fairly considered.

I am spending four days a week in London and three in Brighton. In London I am attending to our Appeal Organisation, which is being strengthened and prepared for its great task. I have negotiated a new Agreement with the British Legion, under which we shall receive 10 per cent. of the net proceeds of this year's Poppy Day. I hope Poppy Day will be a great success and that we shall have a nice sum of money to go on with. I have started an appeal in India and the Colonies and Dependencies. In India, Sir Clutha Mackenzie—the well-known New Zealand blinded soldier leader—has taken charge of the appeal for us. He happened to be staying there on holiday and accepted my invitation to remain for five or six months to undertake this work. I cabled the Viceroy asking him to be Patron of the St. Dunstan's India Fund and he was good enough to send me an immediate cable reply accepting. I am beginning to receive cables from Governors in the Colonial Empire offering to help. In Great Britain we shall not issue an appeal until after Armistice Day is over, as it is not in our interest or in that of the Legion to clash with Poppy Day. Our Appeals Office is still in London, working very hard, and so are one or two representatives of the Welfare Department to deal with local London matters.

When at Brighton I attend to general welfare matters—for practically all the Welfare Staff are there—and I also go up to the Hospital during the week-ends to see how they are getting on and meet many of my old friends. Mr. Ottaway, who very nobly carried the whole burden of the welfare work during the first few weeks of the change-over, has now taken up his duties again as Superintendent of the Southern Area, and Mr. Swain has been moved from the Appeals Department to take charge of the Northern Area. I am sure all Mr. Swain's friends in the Midlands and the North, in Scotland and in Ireland, will welcome him back. I have brought Mr. Swain back to this job and appointed a new Appeals Organiser, because Commander Smyth has had to go back to the Navy. Commander Paul, hitherto Commandant at Brighton, has also been passed for service, and the following members of the staff have also left us:—

F. Baker, Appeals Stores	...	...	...	...	Royal Corps of Signals
W. T. Berry, Headquarters Cashier	...	...	...	...	Royal Air Force.
S. Broster, Appeals Representative	...	...	...	...	Royal Air Force.
G. J. Carter, Raglan Street Storekeeper	...	...	...	...	Auxiliary Fire Service
F. Coppard, Brighton Motor Driver	...	...	...	...	Royal Training Reserve
J. H. Dawkins, Headquarters Sports Instructor	...	...	...	...	Royal Horse Guards.
N. Hayward, Junr., Brighton Orderly	...	...	...	...	Royal Marines.
R. Jarvis, Raglan Street Storekeeper	...	...	...	...	Territorials.
A. D. Lloyds, Headquarters Assistant Secretary	...	...	...	...	Royal Artillery.
G. McLaren, Raglan Street Office	...	...	...	...	London Irish.
R. J. Palmer, Raglan Street Motor Driver	...	...	...	...	Auxiliary Fire Service.
Miss A. T. Scott, Raglan Street Sales Department	...	...	...	...	Women's Auxiliary Force
R. A. Sparkes, Raglan Street Storekeeper	...	...	...	...	Police Force.
G. A. Stevenson, Headquarters Estate Department	...	...	...	...	Royal Air Force.
G. Syrett, Brighton Orderly	...	...	...	...	East Yorks.
W. Webster, Brighton Orderly	...	...	...	...	Royal Artillery.
F. Wilkinson, Brighton Orderly	...	...	...	...	Royal Artillery.
R. W. H. Willoughby, Appeals Representative	...	...	...	...	Middlesex Regiment.
T. F. Wright, Brighton Orderly	...	...	...	...	Militia

All St. Dunstaners will join in wishing those members of the Staff who have been called up, or have rejoined the Army, Navy or Air Force, the very best of good luck. We have told them, as a good employer should, that their jobs will be open for them when they come back from the War.

During the month of September we did practically no trade at all at Raglan Street, that is to say, we had practically no sales. We now have very great stocks, as we always do at this time of the year, in anticipation of good Christmas sales. Trade is moving a little now and we must all hope that Christmas sales will revive and enable us to keep the trading service going as usual. The outlook for trade at the moment is not very bright, but I realise the tremendous importance of distributing as much work as possible amongst our men, and we shall do the best we can.

There is one little ray of hope, namely, that as materials become more difficult to obtain and labour generally is attracted from the handicraft trades, which compete with us, to munition making, and as imports of mats from India and baskets from the Continent are cut off by the War, there may be a better chance for us. There may even be a little bit of a boom in our trades. Let us hope so.

A number of St. Dunstaners have written to me about their sons, telling me of their feelings now that they are being called up. Some write with pride telling me of their boys' progress in the Services, others write with sorrow in their hearts that war should descend upon us twice in our lifetime and affect our children. Unfortunately I have no son of my own. If I had I am sure he would be doing his bit and his mother and I would wish it to be so, but many near and dear to me are serving in different parts, and all of us, I suppose, must take our chance, for this War may come nearer home than the last. We used to say in France, and I think it helped us when a shell was coming over, that we would be all right unless our number was on it. I think this is the best philosophy now. I share your pride and your sorrow too. All we can do is to wish the young fellows the best of luck; do everything in our power to help the country and Empire along, and hope that out of this grim business we shall get rid once and for all of the disturbing elements in the world, which prevent people from leading their own quiet and peaceful lives in their own quiet and peaceful way.

IAN FRASER.

Tally-ho at Brighton

THE physical fitness of the Trainees has been seriously taken in hand by the "St. Dunstan's Harriers." The Meet takes place at 1.30 each day on the Terrace. The hares are given ten minutes' start, and usually manage to lead a varied and interesting trail, over hedges and through fences, etc. On one memorable day the hounds caught the hare at the entrance to its form.

These short daily excursions into the countryside proved so popular that on the afternoon of Saturday, September 31st, "The Harriers" organised a Hunt to Telscombe. "Taffy" Reed and Miss Hickley (the hares) set out at 2 o'clock to lay the trail. The hounds, numbering 18 in all, followed twenty minutes later—

"Slow in pursuit, but matched in mouth like bells,

*Each under each a cry more tuneable,
Was never holla'd to, nor cheered with horn."*

The clues found on gateposts, poles and trees led a varied course across the downs. As each clue was sighted the hounds gave tongue loud and long. One clue found on a pigsty read: "Don't waste time looking here—we are not one of these—carry on to the waterworks!"

At this point the hounds sighted their quarry, struggling up the opposite hill, but as some of the hounds were in bad condition, by the time they reached the summit of the hill the hares had made good their escape.

Near the Saltean dog kennels was a clue reading: "Bed and Breakfast can be obtained here for tired hounds." However, no one fell out, and after scrambling up a steep hill, had the final run into Telscombe, where the hares, with "Mr. H," and Billy, were waiting.

A convenient field was found for tea, each produced his packet of sandwiches, a kettle was boiled, and a well-earned tea was enjoyed, enlivened by much light-hearted banter.

The return journey was made at a more gentle pace—the old-time songs being sung all the way.

The following Saturday a "Scavenger" Hunt was organised. Amongst the articles to be collected were:

A policeman's signature.

A "dicky."

A photograph of one of the Staff under 12.

The regimental march of the Searchlight Unit in the field opposite the Home.
Four dead flies.

Both staff and men enjoyed the event, many telling amusing tales on their return. Owing to the bad weather, they all had tea in the men's dining-room, after which they displayed their objects in the Winter Gardens. Matron Boyd-Rochfort and Mr. Hawketts acted as Judges. Billy Anderson and Miss Saunt having completed their list received the prize. Miss Poole, unable to procure a "dicky," brought the canary from the V.A.D.'s sitting-room.

We are looking forward to many more happy outings, and new hounds will always be welcomed by the pack. "M.F.H."

War-time Notes and News

AS we expected, St. Dunstaners have adapted themselves magnificently to the new order of things, and from every quarter come reports of the way in which they are quietly carrying on. Some are able to give active service: L. Johns, of Enfield, for instance, evacuated with his family to Exeter when his firm closed down temporarily, immediately offered himself to the A.R.P. authorities there. He was selected from twenty applicants to act as night operator in the Exeter Control Room—a signal tribute to the worth of St. Dunstan's telephonists.

Others have accepted cheerfully the descent of evacuated children upon them and have proved model hosts. One report—upon a Scottish St. Dunstaner—says: "In a fortnight's time there was a great change in the children's health and appearance. Their mother is delighted about it."

G. Fallowfield, of Shoreham, has made wooden shutters for his windows and arranged fire buckets on each landing. Now he has drilled the entire household—including his evacuees—into a "systematic and routine crew!" His evacuees have already learned to talk to him.

A. C. Cooke, of Nottingham; H. Kirby, of Wimbledon; H. H. Barnard, of Leytonstone; J. Burley, of Norwich—these are just a few who have made shelters for their families which might well prove models for the rest of the community.

Notice

Turn to page 7 for an important announcement regarding the Armistice Dance.

Miss Jean Fraser

MISS JEAN FRASER, only child of Captain Sir Ian Fraser and Lady Fraser, was married at St. Marylebone Parish Church, London, on Wednesday, September 27th, to Mr. Anthony McDonald.

The veteran Bishop Winnington-Ingram, until recently Bishop of London, who married the bride's father and mother during the Great War, officiated.

Those present included Mr. Askew, Miss Boyd-Rochfort, and a number of St. Dunstaners and members of St. Dunstan's staff; Miss Boyd-Rochfort took a large cake from the bride for the men at the Brighton Hospital.

Air Raid Warnings and the Deaf-Blind

THE problem of warning deaf people of air raids is one which has given the authorities—and the deaf people themselves—a great deal of anxiety. As G. Fallowfield, of Shoreham, says, if a deaf person leaves the house open to the Air Raid Warden, it is open also to anyone else who may feel inclined to walk in. Fallowfield has drawn up for himself a number of excellent rules, which we think will be of interest to all our deaf-blind St. Dunstaners.

1. Never go out of the house alone, or travel alone.
2. Never be left in the house alone.
3. Do not lock a bathroom door, and if there is only one other person in the house, he too should leave such doors unlocked so as to be free to get in or out to a deaf-blind man.
4. The deaf person must tell other people in the house where he might be found, always warning the others when a change is made from one room to another—i.e., from workshop to bedroom, etc.

From Commander Smyth

My friends of the Northern Area—good-bye to you for the present. The Admiralty have another job for me, but I shall often think of you and hope to come back to you as soon as Hitler and his gangsters have been wiped off the face of the earth.

In the meantime I know that Mr. Swain will look after you just as well as I have tried to do.

Good luck to you all.

A. D. D. SMYTH.

'Ware Gas!

J. L. BROOKE, of Sheffield, sends us the following:

If you get a choking feeling and a smell of musty hay,

You can bet your bottom dollar there's Phosgene on the way.

But the smell of bleaching powder will inevitably mean

That the enemy you're meeting is the gas we call Chlorine.

If your head begins to ache and you feel you'd like to sneeze,

You may find it is a nose gas and can count on on of these:

(D.M., D.A., D.C.)

When your eyes begin a-twitching and for tears you cannot see,

It isn't mother peeling onions, but a dose of C.A.P.

If the smell resembles pear-drops, then you'd better not delay,

It's not father sucking toffee, it's that ruddy K.S.K.

If you catch a pungent odour as you're going home for tea,

You can safely put your shirt on it, they're using B.B.C.

If you get a smell of garlic or very similar thing, You'll know the so-and so's dropped Mustard, and of gases it's the King.

And lastly, while geraniums look pleasant in a flower bed,

Beware their smell in war-time; if it's Lewisite, you're dead.

To which Mr. D. W. FERGUSON, who is A.R.P. Officer for Brighton Headquarters, adds the following:—

When you've withstood the nervous fear Of hearing sirens wail

Don't get alarmed when "Gas!" you hear And promptly "kick the pail."

If in a refuge room you hide,

With gas mask on your head,

The gas to fear is not outside,

It's that which cries "I'm dead."

None so Blind as Those Who Can See

"A blind masseur at a Great Portland Street clinic arrived at work with a damaged forehead.

Asked by the sister-in-charge how he had come by the injury, he explained that unfortunately he had gone out in the black-out with someone who could see."

—"Peterborough" in the *Daily Telegraph*.

Drums

THE drums of the British Army are made to-day in the way they have always been made; only when new materials have been admitted as proper for drum frames has the craft changed at all. Until the middle of last century drums were made of wood. Since that time they have been made of brass as well, and after the Zulu wars the custom began of having ceremonial drums made out of silver. The first of these was the South Wales Borderers' silver bass drum, commemorating Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana, the reason being that after the massacre of Isandlwana only the regiment's bass drum was found intact.

Drums then were in the front line, and many of them were pierced by bullets in the Crimea and in South Africa. But nowadays, when they are kept more safely, they do not, on the whole, last longer. Indeed, they last less long, if anything, because they are not used enough. All the same, many last for twenty years. When they do leave the bands in the end, it is usually for a museum, an officers' mess, or an officer's home. Except that there is almost no cavalry left now for whom to make kettledrums, the Army needs new drums as much as ever.

—From the *Manchester Guardian*

Brief Notes

F. A. Cole, of Birmingham, has six sons of military age.

★ ★ ★

F. J. W. Westaway, of Yeovil, who for fourteen years was an enthusiastic member of the Executive Council of the Yeovil British Legion, but retired two years ago, has now been asked to stand again and has been returned unopposed.

★ ★ ★

We mentioned once of the interest of many St. Dunstaners in Toc H. W. H. Stanley, of Stony Stratford, is another who is an enthusiastic member.

Wear Your Badge

It would be helpful if all men going to Brighton would wear their St. Dunstan's badges, in order that they may be more easily recognized by orderlies, station staff, etc., at the Brighton terminus.

Important Notice to Craftsmen

Mr. Doughty is at Raglan Street every day and all orders for raw materials, and communications regarding them, should be forwarded to him there so as to avoid delay.

To Puzzle You

Take a piece of metal weighing 40lb. Cut it into four pieces of different weights so that by using these pieces it is possible to weigh any quantity from 1lb. to 40lb.

★ ★ ★

Fill in the missing letters to form words, the clues for which are given below:

H O - - - -
- H O - - - -
- - H O - - -
- - - H O - -
- - - - H O

1. Truthful; 2. Used for digging; 3. Place of learning; 4. Writer; 5. To resound again.

(Answers next month.)

Recommended Braille Books

Death on the Borough Council, by Josephine Bell.—A very cleverly contrived mystery. Councillor Hicks was stabbed to death in the office of the Borough Librarian, and suspicion fell on the Librarian, his wife, and several other people.

It Happened in Essex, by Victor Bridges.—The author has taken marshes, creeks and estuaries of Essex as the setting for the mystery. The hero's love of adventure brings him into conflict with a gang of criminals.

Early to Rise!

PHIL MAY (the famous *Punch* artist) had promised his wife to spend the evening at home, and had then asked her if she would excuse him whilst he ran down to the Savage Club for a couple of hours. But the boys there would not let him go until daylight. Not having a latch-key, he had to wait until the maid took in the milk. His wife being asleep, he undressed quietly on the landing and was just creeping quietly into bed when his wife woke up and said: "Is that you, Phil?" He promptly replied: "Yes, dear. I have to get up for an early appointment. You get off to sleep again." Then he dressed and took a cab to the Charing Cross Hotel, engaged a room, and went to bed."

—ARNOLD HARTLEY in *Men Only*.

Walking-sticks

By MARTIN THORNHILL

MEN have carried sticks since the days of the Pharaohs.

From the long staff beloved of the biblical Hebrew, the walking-stick degenerated into cudgel and bludgeon. The sword interposed, but the age of chivalry displaced it, and both men and women took to the long slender staff set in vogue by the elegant courtier.

Woman improved on the fashion in her own way, attaching a ribboned bow of chosen hue, which earned the flippant title of a "love-knot." But five feet is an awkward length, and fashion in a moment of sanity reduced the walking-stick to its present-day size, though retaining many elegant trappings.

Superstition took a part, and occupation too. Because gold-headed canes were considered a safeguard against infection, physicians always carried them. And when barbers were surgeons, their professional sign was a walking-stick wrapped about with a bloody bandage.

Since then, the fashion of carrying a walking-stick has stuck, without lapse, like man to his trousers. If you browsed in a stick shop, you'd find such an array of the implements as would astound you by its colossal variety. Essentially, however, stick shapes are of five kinds: the crook, the pull-down, the cross-head, straight root, and straight knob.

The first is the popular curved handle. A straightish length is cut from the tree, and the bottom end bent over to form a half-circle. The pull-down differs from the crook only in the degree to which the bend is made. The result is that right-angle handle for which, in ash sticks, many people have a special preference.

Natural cross-heads are a different story. Here the handle is the tree's root, trained to grow laterally. At anything from three to six years of age the sapling is uprooted, and the root cut to form a T-shaped handle with one of the T's laterals shorn off about three inches from the stem, and the other lateral cut off altogether.

Ever thought of cabbages as sticks? Once walking-sticks were made from tree cabbages reared to heights of twelve to fifteen feet, in Jersey. But that is a dead industry. The stick that does look something like an outsize in cabbage stalks is a

whampoa or a whangee, imported from China and Japan; while other imported sticks are the manilla, blackthorn, malacca, and cherry. For some reason the English cherry does not produce good sticks; it's the Austrian tree that importers like best.

Full-bark malacca canes fetch prices from £2 upwards, according to the quality of the markings and the length of joint. The female tree has short joints and therefore produces cheaper sticks than the male, whose joints are so long as to make a single stick worth as much as £10. One of the most beautiful materials is snake wood. It's a Brazilian tree, and the markings remind you of a handsome tropical snake. The wood is shipped in the solid block, the sticks being hewn in English factories and sold for as little as £4 4s. and £5 5s., except for the very best markings.

Now and again you may see in a first-class stick shop a staff ticketed at £100, or even more. More likely than not, this has been made from a freak rhinoceros horn—a freak because few rhino horns exceed a couple of feet in length. Anyone who would part with £100 for a stick must, you might think, be as much of a freak as the stick. But you might be wrong; he would probably be an explorer or big-game hunter, anxious to acquire what he might tell the world was a memento of one of his own exploits.

Take a peep into a stick factory and watch the fascinating process of straightening, bending, and preparation for market. The straightening "horse" is probably a solid piece of beech of venerable age, with correcting notches worn smoothly by as much as fifty years on the job. To make it pliable, the stick is pushed into a bank of hot sand, then straightened in the horse. Then the handle is bent over to the shape wanted, tied in this position with string, and stacked for several days to cool off and stiffen.

Next comes scouring, and afterwards bleaching, to produce the "white bloom" that characterises the correctly prepared ash stick. If a "scored" effect is wanted in chestnut, this operation is performed before bleaching, as also is "scorching" in the case of the black, green, nut brown, and other colours variously selected by lovers of the chestnut stick.

Leave the factory, and look in at the retail side of the business. Here is a

malacca cane mounted with a white ivory billiard ball as handle. Another is topped with a ball of tortoiseshell. Over there is an ebony crook studded with brilliants—they may even be diamonds. A locked showcase houses a collection of treasures finished off with skin of crocodile, python, or lizard. You may find a Rosebery Crutch or a Prince of Wales Knob—freak shapes by which these celebrities were first attracted, and so set a fashion.

And here and there, among the best breeds, you may be trapped into believing that the marvellous imitation markings contrived by the skill of the stainer-varnisher are priceless malaccas from Malaya, Japanese partridge, Brazilian snake wood, or green ebony from the West Indies and West Africa.

And if you want to steal a march on a competitor-photographer, you can buy a stick in which a baby camera is concealed.

—MARTIN THORNHILL in *Men Only*.

The Music Room

Mrs. Brancker has asked us to say that, in view of the fact that the Music Staff have either left London or are otherwise occupied, and also because of the black-out, it will not be possible to continue the activities of the Music Room at 60 Paddington Street.

Found

A CHAIN has been picked up in the Hove district, and attached to it is a gold cross, a cigar-cutter, and a pencil case. There are initials on one of the articles and an inscription which indicates that the owner has been connected with St. Dunstan's at some time. The initials are A.K.S.

If anyone knows the owner of these articles will he please write to the Editor and identify them.

Max Miller Says—

THERE'S all sorts of ways of proposing to a girl. I remember how I put the hint to my wife.

She was complaining about how men had the best time in this life and she said, "I wish nature had made me a man."

So I ups and says, "It did, and I'm him."

So you can see it's simple enough if you're smart.

Then I said, "Give me a kiss." And she said, "Mother mightn't like it." And I said, "Mother isn't going to get it."

"LILLIPUT."

Armistice Dance

THE Annual big Armistice Dance for London and district will not be held this year, owing to difficulties of travelling and A.R.P. But a smaller Armistice Party or Dance will be held in the Lounge at Headquarters, on Tuesday, November 7th.

In view of the necessity not to overcrowd the Headquarters Lounge beyond the capacity of the Air Raid Shelters, those wishing to come on Tuesday, November 7th, must apply to Miss Morris for tickets. Tickets will be issued in order of application.

The Social and Sports Meetings every Tuesday night in the Lounge were started again on Tuesday, October 10th. About twenty St. Dunstaners and their escorts came, and a Whist Drive was held.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

I wonder whether these meagre words will induce a few more of our men to join the recently-formed Bridge Club? I am sure that many of them play Bridge, some probably very well, but if they play it well or badly they will find a welcome waiting for them.

We have our own Committee, elected annually, which makes all arrangements as to the tournaments held amongst ourselves, or the "drives" (to which visitors are invited) and keeps a fatherly eye on our doings. So please come along if you play Bridge and give us the benefit of your experience, and if you are just a Whist player come just the same and learn Bridge. I am sure that in a few years time, when we become less enthusiastic about physical culture and the like, we shall enjoy these competitions. For those who have not indulged in the game up to the present let me advise them not to be afraid of the word "Bridge," but to write to the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club at Headquarters, asking for particulars. I hope many will join us and give the pleasure of their company to the existing members, including

Yours sincerely,

C. F. THOMPSON.

Wise Words

When you have made up your mind what to do, don't bother till the time comes for action.

“ In Memory ”

SAPPER WILLIAM PIKE

(*Royal Engineers*)

We record with deepest regret the death of W. Pike, of Cork, which occurred on July 31st, at his home.

Pike was gassed in March, 1918, in the Lens Sector, but he did not come to the notice of St. Dunstan's until June, 1932.

He was a widower with two children, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

PRIVATE A. URRY

(*Royal Army Medical Corps*)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of A. Urry, of Kensal Rise.

Urry was called up in 1914 and lost his sight as a result of malaria, contracted while serving overseas. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1921 and was trained as a poultry farmer, which occupation he carried on until a year or so before his death.

He leaves a widow, to whom we offer our sincere sympathy.

Birth

POWER.—To the wife of Mr. and Mrs. G. Power, of Merthyr Tydfil, a son.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy to the following :—

BRIGHT.—To A. G. Bright, of King's Cross, whose wife passed away on September 24th, after a short illness.

MCCARTE.—To H. McCarte, of Baldock, whose wife passed away on October 14th.

McFARLANE.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. McFarlane, of Barnhill, by Dundee, whose son has recently died.

Marriage

YOUNG-BELL.—On October 7th, at St. Barnabas Church, Hove, J. Young, of Hove, to Miss Olive Bell.

Silver Wedding

We regret that the news has only just reached us that Mr. and Mrs. W. Moorcroft, of Liverpool, celebrated their Silver Wedding anniversary on August 18th, 1938.

Congratulations to them, and also to Mr. and Mrs. Kirkman, of Thorpe Bay, who have recently celebrated their anniversary.

Young St. Dunstaners

Arthur, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Porter, of Southampton, was married to Norah Evelyn Thompson, on September 9th.

Eric Maskell, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Maskell, of Rochester, who has finished his studies up to University standard, was awarded, with his friend, a special prize for the best all-round pupil.

★ ★ ★

Thomas Tuxford, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Tuxford, of Redditch, has passed the Oxford School Certificate examination with honours in seven of the ten subjects.

★ ★ ★

Harold Gunson, the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Gunson, of Batley, has secured the Higher Schools' Certificate, and has now entered Leeds University.

★ ★ ★

The youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Brockerton, of Coleraine, was recently married.

★ ★ ★

Evelyn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Z. Hurrell, of Lowestoft, has secured a scholarship to attend a secondary school.

With the Services

The eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Kerr, of Widnes, who has been in Canada for some years, joined the Canadian Ordnance Corps the day following the outbreak of war. On September 13th he married Mary Curran.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Owen, of Liverpool, have four sons, all of them in uniform. Two are in the Air Force and the others are in Ground forces.

The sons of Mr. and Mrs. G. Hadfield, of Ottery St. Mary, are serving. Donald is at an Army Technical School and his elder brother is in the Royal Engineers.

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

THE policy of St. Dunstan's may be said to fall into two parts. Firstly, to carry on as far as possible, in war conditions, its well-established services for existing St. Dunstaners, and secondly, to prepare to give every possible help to any new young fellows who join our ranks.

Looking back upon all that has happened since war broke out, I think we have carried out these policies satisfactorily. At the opening of the war we got our Convalescent Home at Brighton ready to take new cases. The necessity to do this work in a hurry, and the possibility of immediate casualties, led to our reducing the number of men in residence very considerably in the first few weeks. But as soon as the initial work was done and we saw that we might reasonably expect a quiet and more or less normal time, we increased the numbers in the Home again, and as I write it is very full indeed, and any visitor there would find it difficult to distinguish between the present situation and the same place a few months ago, before war began. One ward has been kept for emergencies, and there are doctors and nurses resident in the building. Otherwise, everything is just the same.

The first new patient from the present war came into St. Dunstan's last week. He was not wounded, but one of his eyes had been very severely damaged in an accident. This has been operated on and it is hoped that, in a few weeks' time, he will be fit to leave without any serious impairment of his vision. I am afraid that the majority of the cases that come to us will not be so fortunate, but it is at any rate a satisfaction to feel that we can do this splendid remedial and healing work. The young man concerned was a Telegraphist in the Navy. Although one of his eyes is all right, he has both of them bandaged up as part of his treatment, so that for the next few weeks he will, for all practical purposes, be blind. The other day I gave him a braille watch, and he was delighted to be able to tell the time by himself. He says he has never been so comfortable in any hospital, or so well looked after, and is full of praise for St. Dunstan's.

Before leaving the Hospital, let me say a word about the staff there. Commander Paul, having been called up, Mr. Davenport has taken over the duty of Commandant. He is Commandant in just the same sense that Commander Paul was, but in addition, of course, he is a very distinguished Harley Street Ophthalmic Surgeon. He is, therefore, called Medical Commandant, and will take charge of the place during the war. He has an Assistant-Surgeon, Mr. Cross, who has done general surgical and medical work as well as eye work. Between them, Mr. Davenport and Mr. Cross look after all medical matters in the combined Home and Hospital. Dr. Fyffe continues to be our Visiting Medical Officer, and is called in when necessary.

Miss Boyd Rochfort remains Matron of St. Dunstan's and continues her work at the Home, looking after the welfare of the men and V.A.D. and other staff. A Ward Matron, Miss Postlethwaite, has been appointed to look after the medical side, and Sister Scott has been made Assistant Matron so as to understudy both Miss Boyd Rochfort and Miss Postlethwaite, and take over their tour of responsibility when either of them is off duty. Sister McCarthy remains, and there are four Moorfields Sisters. Mr. Hawketts remains Head Orderly. Miss Pain, I am glad to say, has accepted my invitation to return and take charge of the Braille Room, and she and Mrs. Broughton, who is very kindly assisting her, are specially busy now dealing with a considerable number of Great War St. Dunstaners who have lost their sight very recently and are going through their training. At present, of course, the staff are devoting themselves almost entirely to helping run the place as a Home for old St. Dunstaners, but we have carried out our undertaking to the Government by having everything ready for an emergency.

As I said in an earlier note, if and when new casualties become very numerous, we shall provide for the growth of St. Dunstan's in a similar manner to the way in which it grew in the last war.

The welfare organisation is now working more or less normally, carrying out all its ordinary duties in connection with our men's welfare in their homes all over the country. Although it has meant a very great uprooting for the staff, they have settled down satisfactorily at Brighton. Thus we can be sure that the welfare work of St. Dunstan's will go on, even if London should unfortunately become difficult to work in owing to air raids. We have also placed at Brighton copies of all our important records, so that, should our Head Office in London be bombed, we can still carry on with our appeal and other work. Meantime, the Appeal Staff continues in London at full pressure, as is necessary should we have to meet additional liabilities.

I am spending more and more of my time in London, looking after the appeal work. This week I shall be here all the time, for I have much to do here, and there is no special call upon me at Brighton.

We have re-started the Tuesday Club Night in London, and a small number of men turn up for whist, dominoes, etc. Last night a larger number turned up for the Dance at Headquarters, which took the place of our usual Armistice Dance. We are trying to start a Club or Sports Meeting at Brighton again. Raglan Street is continuing more or less normally, in spite of depleted staff, and great difficulties. Children's allowances and other payments are going out more or less regularly, as in peace time. The regularity and certainty of all these things is good, but it has only been achieved by the splendid co-operation of all concerned, and we must not take it for granted. We are entitled to congratulate the staff upon the way in which St. Dunstan's is going on almost as if nothing had happened. It represents a very great achievement and the overcoming of immense difficulties.

I hear that the Social and Technical Visitors are doing their best to get round their areas, but, of course, their visits will not be quite so frequent as in normal times. Travelling and the black-out make every journey more troublesome and much longer. Nevertheless, we are all grateful to this Staff, in whom both the organisation and our men place such faith, for carrying on as best they can.

We are not losing any opportunity which presents itself of selling our goods. We have disposed of a number of articles to the Office of Works for new Government buildings, and we are in close touch with the Ministry of Supply about netting and other things our men make. For the moment these inquiries are only leading to small results, and since we have very great stocks they will not be reflected in more work for the time being, but they are all in the right direction.

No one can tell what will happen, but it looks to me as if any really big campaign on the Western Front will be put off until the early spring. My friends who were in France will remember that, in the last war, the really big engagements, involving hundreds of thousands, and even millions, of men, were more or less confined to the months from, say, March to October, while the months from November to February were on the whole quieter. This is natural, of course, owing to the difficulty of movement during the winter. Thus, unless aid raids take place on a great scale, I do not expect any big change in St. Dunstan's in the next few months.

IAN FRASER.

Armistice Day, 1939

ALTHOUGH the customary Armistice Day Service was not observed this year, many wreaths were laid at the Cenotaph. Early in the morning of November 11th, Sir Ian Fraser, with R. Graves, N. Downs, and A. Craigie, placed a wreath on behalf of St. Dunstaners throughout the Empire. Corporal Major Dawkins accompanied them.

Sir Ian then went by train to Brighton, where, at eleven o'clock, he placed a wreath on the Memorial, "In remembrance of their comrades from the blinded officers and men of St. Dunstan's throughout the Empire." Sir Ian was accompanied by Matron Boyd Rochfort and two St. Dunstaners—W. Sebbage and F. Berisford.

Beautifying an A.R.P. Shelter

B. Quigley, of Cleadon Park, South Shields, has made an excellent job of his Anderson shelter. With the aid of large upright slabs of rough stone, he has built up the front and sides of the shelter, and filled the intervening space with plants. The terraced effect is really attractive—and the shelter itself is quite invisible.

Keeping in Touch

IN these uncertain times it is very difficult for the REVIEW to keep track of St. Dunstan's men and their activities, and because of that it will become more and more difficult for St. Dunstaners to have news of one another.

The REVIEW is intended as a news bulletin, and we welcome items of news about St. Dunstaners.

There is no need to notify the Editor separately. If you are writing to Mr. Ottaway, or Mr. Swain, about this or that, and you think other St. Dunstaners might be interested, just add, "Please tell the REVIEW." That is all.

Canine Topics

H. Marsden, of Liskeard, has had a wide experience in dog-breeding, and is himself a white bull-terrier breeder.

In this and in forthcoming issues of the REVIEW he will pass on to other St. Dunstaners the benefit of his knowledge.

DURING my recent stay at the Home, my connection with dogs and doggy journalism being unknown to my fellow St. Dunstaners, I was much interested

to learn of the breeds of dogs in which individual St. Dunstaners were interested. What a collection they were! Bedlingtons, Bull-terriers, Alsations, Scotties, Wire-haired Terriers, Manchester Terriers, Black and Tan Terriers, Whippets, and Greyhounds.

On one of these breeds, the Manchester Terrier, I found myself in conversation one day with a St. Dunstaner on its merits and origin. As others seemed at one time or another to have been interested in the Manchester, I think that in my initial article in the REVIEW, I could not do better than give the history of this breed.

This article is the forerunner of a series of monthly topics on breeds and methods of breeding, together with articles upon heredity, reversion, and evolution. In fact, a series which has appeared in the various American canine journals for which I have written.

The Manchester Terrier of To-day

Like that of a great many other pedigree dogs, the origin of this breed is somewhat shrouded in obscurity, and from the lack of recorded authentic data, the task of giving its history is very heavily handicapped. Certain it is that its forbears flourished at the beginning of last century. The terriers of that sporting period were of nondescript types. The general practice among the doggy fraternity was to divide dogs into two distinct classes, and two only—English dogs and foreign dogs, and under these two sub-divisions the canine race in England remained for a great many years. Even at the Great International Show, held in Islington Hall, London, in 1864, there were more foreign dogs benched than there were in 1934. Calling all unknown breeds of dogs "foreign," because their English genesis was in doubt, did not help in the compilation of real authentic records. As these "foreign" dogs were kept by fanciers of the working class at that time, there is proof, however, that they were crossed with the various English types of terrier extant. The larger breeds were also crossed with the large "foreign" dogs.

Take the Cuban Bloodhound. It was termed a foreign dog, but it was common to use St. Bernards as sires with English bloodhound dams. The offspring were then called Cuban Bloodhounds, and were of massive size, and they were also obtained

by crossing the St. Bernard with the English Mastiff.

Another type of very much smaller dimensions greatly resembled the wire-haired terrier of to-day, but with a Cairns headpiece and a white, shaggy coat; a wicked looking little tyke, judging from his picture.

Then there was the White English Terrier. This terrier is the foundation stone of the principal terrier breeds of to-day, and the variety is extinct when, had breeders only considered its immense value, it would not have been so.

Another type of terrier was the rough Black-and-Tan. Very often black, white and tan. More stocky in build, and a heavy, rough coat. The Whippet, too, was of a fairly even type.

With these different materials to work upon, the Manchester Terrier did not owe its birth to the aristocrats of that day. It was a product of the dog breeders of the middle class of the community, and, strangely enough, it has never, in England, risen in the social scale of canine favouritism as other terrier breeds have done. As a workman's dog it came into being, and to-day is the same. In and around the river Mersey, this new breed made its appearance, and, when it grew more in the public eye, it was at once called the Black and Tan, and later the Manchester Terrier, being larger than the White English Terrier, with many of the characteristics common to the latter breed.

Thus it is more certain that the Manchester Terrier has in its composition strains of English White Terrier, Whippet, Rough Black and Tan Terrier, and undoubtedly some of the blood of those so-called "foreign" terrier-type dogs that were abundant between 1800 and 1850.

The common terriers of that date were game little beggars, and the Manchester inherited that gameness from its several ancestors. As a matter of fact, it has to-day some characteristics which are not common to other terrier breeds. When the breed became stabilised, it was taken up by the working classes with rapidity, because it achieved such a reputation as a rat-catcher, and when rat-killing in pits was the rage, the Manchester quite held his own, his wonderful agility serving him well, and not

being given to "yapping" like other terriers, he got on with his work. So the breed progressed, and Birmingham took it up. It travelled to Wolverhampton and Coventry, but it founded its home in Lancashire. In the town of Rochdale it was bred on good sound lines about 1870, by Mr. Abraham Whitehead, who also bred St. Bernards. This gentleman did quite a lot to take the roughness off the breed, and he sold many of his dogs for what was, in those days, a very large sum. As he was my uncle, I can vouch for this, as he had one Manchester dog, for which he had been offered £100, run over and killed, in the year 1880, a few days after refusing the offer.

The Black and Tan Terrier Club—a Northern organisation, now defunct—was formed, and the breed standardised by a scale of points being drawn up and adopted.

At the present time there is no club representative of the breed in existence in England. This fact is to be deplored, as it is very rarely seen, only in variety classes, and in the breed classes which are put on annually at Crufts'.

Good specimens in England are few and far between, so greatly has the breed deteriorated in the public eye, and there is no reason why it should not come again and take its place as the pal of the sporting working man, to whose domestic conditions it readily accommodates itself, and will readily disport itself with the youngsters, will not bark unnecessarily, only at the approach of strangers. When a Manchester barks, a stranger is somewhere in its vicinity, and he will not stop barking until the danger is removed. The breed is invaluable as watchdogs, is even tempered, and not quarrelsome.

Wise Words

Be ambitious to live content with small means; seek elegance rather than luxury, and refinement rather than fashion; be worthy, not respectable; and wealthy, not rich. Listen to stars and birds, to babes and sages with open heart. Hear cheerfully, act bravely, hurry never, and always let the spiritual grow up through the common.—*W. H. Channing.*

★ ★ ★

All revolutions come from the slowness of evolution.—*Paul Valery.*

Where the Blind Man Scores

IN these days of black-outs, the blind man scores over his sighted friends. "We've got the rest of the world beat," one St. Dunstanian has said, although, as Sir Ian Fraser mentioned in a broadcast talk recently, this idea must not be taken too literally. Even when a place is in pitch darkness it is surprising how much can be seen when the eyes get accustomed to the situation.

Sir Ian was broadcasting from the B.B.C. Home Service on September 27th. His subject was: "Getting about in the dark," and Sir Ian acknowledges his indebtedness to G. Fallowfield, of Shoreham-on-Sea, who suggested the idea.

Sir Ian gave one or two very simple little tips, familiar to all St. Dunstanians. "If you do have to get up in the night to go to a shelter or a cellar, you will need shoes and a warm coat—and your gas mask. Put them close to the bed and practise getting in and out of bed in the dark, putting your feet in the shoes, finding your coat, etc.

"If you are groping your way along a passage, don't put your hands out in front of you, but put one arm in front of you with the forearm across you—like a boxer defending himself. This will protect you against the edge of any door.

"If there are stairs, count them, and memorise the number. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred, the banister follows the exact run of the stairs; run your hand lightly along it, slightly in advance of your body, and it will tell you where the corners are, and where the steps begin and end.

"Lean a little back when you are walking along, then if you come to an unexpected step, you won't be so likely to fall forwards.

"If you have to cross an open room, or a bit of a lawn to reach a shelter, tie a stout string across it to serve as a guide.

"I hope many, if not all of us, will be spared the unpleasant experience of an air-raid, but if you have made yourself familiar with the journey to the shelter, and made a routine of putting your things where you know you can find them, you will feel much more comfortable in your mind because you will know you are going to be all right, and so you will sleep soundly and not worry."

Sir Ian's talk was repeated in another programme on October 25th.

Puzzle Corner

Here are the answers to last month's problems:

The four pieces of metal weigh respectively 1, 3, 9, and 27 lbs. It will be seen that by using these weights, it is possible to weigh any quantity from 1 lb. to 40 lb.

★ ★ ★

In the second problem the missing words were:

Honest, Shovel, School, Author, Re-echo.

How Many Boxes?

(Answer this in one minute!)

If a person has a large box with five small boxes in it, and two very small boxes in each of the small boxes, how many boxes are there in all?

(Answer on p. 7.)

Do You Know?

(Answers on page 7)

1.—The emu, the kiwi and the ostrich, poor birds, can't what?

2.—In operatic circles, what is an impresario?

3.—Which acid is beneficial to a bad burn?

4.—What is the largest known tree?

5.—What planet, nearest to the sun, requires eighty-seven days to rotate?

6.—Why are Friends called "Quakers"?

7.—Who invented the piano?

Quite Well!

AN old sergeant was noted for his ability as drill-master and was invariably assigned to the task of breaking in new recruits. There came to the Company a captain with advanced ideas, who quickly noted that his best N.C.O. was as proficient in profanity as he was in the Manual of Infantry Training. He took him to task.

"Sergeant," he said, "I have no complaint to make of your ability, but I want you to realise that you are to teach these men how to drill and not how to swear. Now I expect to see some improvement in your methods."

The following day he overheard the sergeant at instruction:

"Now I want to see you step out lively, my sons. And keep your eyes straight to the front, my sons. And hold your heads up, my sons. You know the kind of sons I mean!"

The First Favourite

MODERN racing really begins with Eclipse, born during an eclipse in 1764. He never ran till he was five, never lost a race, and got to know the courses so well that he used to slow down after passing the winning post. When he died, in his twenty-sixth year, Eclipse had sired four hundred horses.

He was probably the fastest runner of his time. But nobody knows which horse has actually been the fastest runner of all time: for there is no race run where horses are entered without regard to age or weight, though it is usually estimated that a thoroughbred, with a rider, can cover a mile in 1 min. 36 sec., going full gallop.

The horse, after being the only means of travel and transport for five thousand years, is being completely displaced. The British cavalry is being mechanised and even cowboys now ride round in flivvers instead of on broncos.

But, rather oddly, as the horse dies out for use, the horse has been coming back for exercise and for pleasure. Riding schools have trebled in Britain since 1930, a pony club founded eight years ago has got eleven thousand members.

—JOHN HAMPDEN in *The Sunday Express*.

Sense and Nonsense

Reprinted from "Parade"

IT is an indiscreet and troublesome ambition that cares so much about fame; about what the world says of us; to be always looking in the faces of others for approval; to be always anxious about the effect of what we do or say; to be always shouting to hear the echoes of our own voices.—*Longfellow*.

★ ★ ★

A learned person is usually one who has read everything and thought of nothing—a walking encyclopedia with no place to go.—*Howard Blake*.

★ ★ ★

Broadly speaking, there are only two classes of people in the world; those who wish to do as they like with themselves, and those who wish to do as they like with others.—*William J. Robins*.

★ ★ ★

The world is full of fools, and he who would not wish to see one must not only shut himself in alone, but must also break his looking-glass.—*Boileau*.

Armistice Party

ALTHOUGH various difficulties made the usual Armistice Dance out of the question this year, a very merry party was held as a substitute on Tuesday, November 7th, at Headquarters. In spite of the black-out, there was a good attendance.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser spent a long time with the guests. Miss Morris, of course, was there, and others who came from Brighton for the party were Mr. Swain, Mr. Ferguson, and Mr. Mace. Corporal Major Dawkins, too, was able to get leave for the occasion.

Herr Hitler's Dream

HERE is a story, strange as it seems,
Of Hitler the Nazi, and his terrible dream.

*Tired of the Allies, he lay down on his bed,
And amongst other things he dreamt he was dead,
He was all straightened out and lying in state,
His little moustache frozen in hate,
And when he was dead he found out to his cost,
His plans and his passport to the rest were lost.*

*He left this earth and to heaven went straight,
And proudly he marched to the Golden Gate,
St. Peter looked out and in a voice loud and clear,
Said, "Hitler the Nazi, you can't get in here."
So Hitler turned back and away he did go,
With the greatest of ease to the regions below,
But the Look-out Angel, who was well worth
his hire,*

*Just flew to Satan and gave him the wire,
So Satan said, "Fellows, I'll give you a warning,
I'm expecting Herr Hitler down here in the morning,
I'm telling you straight and I'm letting you clear,
We're too blasted good for that fellow down here."*

*"Oh Satan! Oh Satan!" Herr Hitler then cried,
"I heard what you said when I waited outside,
"Oh, give me a corner, I've nowhere to go,"
But Satan said, "Nix, a thousand times no."*

*He kicked Hitler back, and vanished in smoke,
And just at that moment Herr Hitler awoke,
He called for Hess in a lather of sweat,
"I'll crave no more for the Reich, you can bet,
I can't go to heaven, that I can tell,
But it's a damned awful thing to be kicked out
of Hell."*

D. J. McLOUGHLIN.

Fallacies

CLOUDS do not float. Their particles are always tending to fall. As long as there is condensation to replace the particles that drop out, clouds keep forming—and so appear to remain aloft.

★ ★ ★

The hair does not turn grey in a single night through fear or shock. Greying of the hair is a natural process and may be hastened by poor health conditions and nervous ailments, but it cannot happen overnight.

★ ★ ★

A receding chin does not designate weakness of character. Strong mechanical pressure during the growing period is responsible for the warps in the architectural structure of one's face, chin, and jaw.

★ ★ ★

Man does not have one less rib than woman. This popular misunderstanding undoubtedly arose from the Biblical version of man's creation.

★ ★ ★

Elephants do not drink through their trunks—they are merely used to aid in getting the water to the mouth.

★ ★ ★

Tonnage. Contrary to general belief, the word tonnage has nothing to do with the weight (displacement) of a merchant vessel. In early days, the size of a trading-ship was estimated by the number of TUNS (barrels) of wine she could carry in her hold, and it is from this we get the word TONNAGE or TUNNAGE.

Do You Know?

(See page 5)

- 1.—Can't fly.
- 2.—The manager of an opera company.
- 3.—Tannic.
- 4.—The peppermint gum tree, grown in Australia.
- 5.—Mercury.
- 6.—Because the founder of the Society of Friends, George Fox, felt that none could know Jesus Christ without quaking and trembling.
- 7.—Bartolomeo Cristofori, a harpsichord-maker of Padua, Italy, in 1709.

Answer to Puzzle Corner

16 boxes.

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson

THE Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson will be held this year at the Chapel of the Brighton Home, at 2.30 p.m. on Sunday, December 10th. The day upon which Sir Arthur died was December 9th, but Lady (Arthur) Pearson and Sir Neville Pearson have expressed the wish that in future the Memorial Service should be held on the Sunday nearest to the Memorial Day.

Sir Neville Pearson, will read the Lesson, if his military duties permit.

The majority of the congregation will be men staying at the Home, but a certain number of seats will be kept for men who live in or near Brighton, if they will apply to Matron by December 5th. In the event of there being more applications than there are places, Matron will give preference in the allocation of seats to those who knew Sir Arthur Pearson, and if there are still not enough seats, she will take a ballot. St. Dunstaners, therefore, who live in or near Brighton and wish to attend the Service should write at once to Matron and tell her.

On the morning of December 9th a deputation of St. Dunstaners will proceed to Hampstead Cemetery from Headquarters to place a wreath on Sir Arthur's grave. Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Askew, at Brighton.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

Re your notice in the October "Review" about a pencil, etc., found at Hove.

I seem to remember Sir Arthur Pearson presenting a gold pencil to Mr. Arthur Kingston Stewart, in recognition of his services as organist and choirmaster at St. Dunstan's during and after the war. Mr. Kingston Stewart now lives at Hove, I think in Queen's Gardens, and it is possible the articles belong to him.

Yours faithfully, E. KESSELL.

(We are indebted to Mr. Kessell for his letter and are getting into touch with Mr. Kingston Stewart at once.—ED.)

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Garbutt, of Stockton-on-Tees, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on July 9th.

Young St. Dunstaners

James, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Dunlop, of Bonnyrigg, Midlothian, was married on October 14th to Roberta Allan.

★ ★ ★

William, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Shayler, of Liverpool, was married to Miss Frances Naylor, on August 19th. He is now serving "Somewhere in France." His brother, George, is in the Merchant Service, now on the high seas "dodging the U-boats," adds Shayler.

★ ★ ★

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Cass, of West Hartlepool, was married on October 7th to Mr. Arthur Sampson.

★ ★ ★

Betty McLoughlin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. McLoughlin, of Dublin, who is well known to Irish St. Dunstaners for her vocal contributions at Irish Reunions, recently broadcast with success from the Dublin station.

★ ★ ★

Dorothy, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Chilton, of Leighton Buzzard, gave splendid assistance to the authorities in connection with the evacuation arrangements. Dorothy, who is practically an invalid, is a "second" in the Girl Guides. She worked very hard, sitting at the railway station, directing the parties of children as they came off the train.

★ ★ ★

Jean Pattinson the daughter of our late St. Dunstaner, A. Pattinson, of Whitley Bay, has passed an elementary examination to become a member of the Royal Academy of Operatic Dancing.

★ ★ ★

The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Sharpe, of Ingleton, has been promoted to the rank of Lance-Bombardier at the age of 19, and is now "Somewhere in France."

A Coincidence

In a letter to Sir Ian Fraser, T. Dickinson, of North Moulsecombe, Brighton, writes that his son, Sydney, who had joined the R.N.V.R. in September, 1938, was called up on August 28th, 1939—the same date exactly on which his father was called up in 1914. Both Dickinson and his son were volunteers.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

Summer Sports Results, 1939

Section A		Section B	
1st	A. Crook 87	1st	{ W. Lacey 86
2nd	H. Steele 44		{ S. Webster 86
3rd	T.W. Collyer 34	3rd	W. Birchall 42

Walks

We have had one or two requests for a walking programme in the New Year.

Would members wishing to take part please send their views on the following programme to the Sports Office, as early as possible :

3 mile.
6 mile.
9 mile.

Christmas Party

We hope to hold a Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 19th, commencing at 7 p.m.

To enable us to make necessary A.R.P. arrangements, will members please send their applications for themselves and one escort to Miss Morris, as soon as possible.

Owing to the limited numbers allowed, applications will be taken strictly in rotation.

Bridge League

ANOTHER Bridge League Tournament has just finished. R. Graves and A. Waite were the winners with seven matches out of nine, while three other pairs tied for second place, losing only three games out of the nine.

A Duplicate Bridge Match—Telephonists *versus* The Others—will be held early in December. H.G.

Dart Boards for the Troops

As a result of collections at the Tuesday Night Socials, three dart boards have been sent to the troops from St. Dunstaners, through the *Daily Mirror* Fund.

Birth

STUBBS.—To the wife of J. Stubbs, of Knotty Ash, Liverpool, on November 3rd, a daughter.

Death

LACEY.—We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. W. Lacey, of Edmonton, in the loss of their youngest daughter, at the early age of 20.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The King's Gold

HIS MAJESTY the King has sent me a gold cigarette box in aid of St. Dunstan's Funds. There are so many appeals for money just now, and there is so little money about, that I thought I would try to augment our resources by an appeal for gifts of gold articles. In the course of a lifetime, people are apt to obtain such articles as cigarette cases, pencils, watch chains, and so on sometimes as presents or prizes, sometimes as heirlooms. Often there are duplications, and they lie on a shelf, or in a drawer, unwanted and unused. My object was to bring some of these out in the open, so that they could be melted down, and I argued that the gold would help the country, when it eventually reached the Bank of England, and the money for which it was sold would help St. Dunstan's. The response to my appeal has been satisfactory.

The King's cigarette box is in itself most valuable, and when melted down will, I know, be found to contain a large amount of fine gold, but of course there is more to His Majesty's gracious gift than this, for it will set an example to others which will, I hope, be widely followed.

The King has always taken a kindly interest in St. Dunstan's, ever since the first time he came to see us, when he was Duke of York, and unveiled the Memorial Portrait of Sir Arthur Pearson at our Headquarters in London.

All connected with St. Dunstan's will be grateful for His Majesty's generosity and appreciative of the personal trouble he has taken to look out one of his personal possessions and send it to St. Dunstan's.

Deaf St. Dunstaners

More than once in these Notes, and in speeches to St. Dunstaners I have called attention to the group amongst us who are both deaf and blind. These St. Dunstaners have special needs of their own, which we try to meet in a variety of ways. I am glad to say that a number of blinded soldiers have taken up my suggestion to learn the manual alphabet, so that they can talk to their deaf comrades when they meet them. I hope others will follow this course. It is a service which can well be rendered also by members of the staff and by Good Companions. They will be helping St. Dunstan's by making themselves available for service to deaf-blind St. Dunstaners, and they will be helping the deaf-blind themselves by talking to them from time to time, telling them about the news or what is going on, etc., and thus making themselves good companions to this group who, though they are doubly cut off from the world, maintain their interest in it with such splendid fortitude.

I have often told St. Dunstaners who have a little bit of sight and are losing it slowly, and know that it will disappear altogether in time, how important it is to use their remaining glimmer of sight to the best advantage, in preparation for the darkness which will follow. Let me give the same advice to a few of my friends who may be getting a little hard of hearing. Sometimes deafness is progressive, but it comes on so slowly that you do not notice it. If any St. Dunstaner thinks he is in such a case, or if his wife is beginning to notice that he is a little deafer than he was before, now is the time to take up the manual way of speaking. It is so much easier to learn it before you are really deaf, and while people can still talk to you fairly easily and explain it to you. Then braille too should be given attention. I have urged upon all blind people how important braille is to them, but it is even more important to those who are deaf as well. How very much easier it is to learn braille or to have a refresher course while your hearing is still fairly good, so that your teacher can tell you how you are getting on and give you instructions by word of mouth.

Happily there is only a small proportion of our two thousand St. Dunstaners who are deaf or hard of hearing, but all of us can do much to make them feel that they are a real live part of St. Dunstan's, and I am sure we will all do what we can.

Archbishop Ordains St. Dunstaner

All St. Dunstaners will join me in offering our congratulations to the Reverend W. G. Speight, who was ordained by the Archbishop of Canterbury on Monday, December 4th. Early St. Dunstaners will remember Speight. He was a Territorial with the Sherwood Foresters before the Great War, and served with the Yorks and Lancs. Regiment in France in 1915, and was blinded at Doesinghe during that year. At St. Dunstan's towards the end of 1915 and in 1916 he learnt braille and typewriting, and took up poultry farming, but he desired the opportunity of using his intellectual and administrative abilities, and shortly afterwards he undertook a special course of training, and was appointed Principal of the Missionary School for the Blind at Palamcottah, in Southern India.

I have recently read some most interesting articles which he has written of life in India generally, and of the problems he has had to face in his school for blind young Indians. Multiplicity of languages, religions, and curious customs presented many difficulties, and the fact that public begging by the poor, unfortunate and disabled, and particularly by the blind, is almost a traditional religious practice in India, had to be overcome.

With little equipment, little money, but great strength of character and abundance of faith, Speight went on, and his school is now a great benefit to Southern India, and a model of its kind in the Indian Empire.

A year or two ago, in early middle-age, he went back to school himself, to study for Holy Orders. This is a remarkable achievement of which any seeing person might be proud, and we are proud of our fellow St. Dunstaner, and wish him luck in his future career.

It may interest St. Dunstaners to know that several of our members have found their vocation in the Church. The Reverend Harold Gibb is the most senior. He was a parson before the war, became a combatant officer in his regiment during an emergency, and was blinded, and then went back to the Church. St. Dunstaners who were present at the Service in memory of Sir Arthur, on December 10th, heard him take the service and preach.

The Reverend Andrew Nugee is another. He has an active busy parish near Sheffield. He took up Holy Orders after his time at St. Dunstan's, and started in a small country parish. A year ago he moved to his present parish, which is a much bigger job, with two curates under him. He has recently been appointed Officiating Chaplain to a very large Training Unit of R.A.S.C.

Many others who are not ordained take an active part in Church and Chapel life as lay preachers.

From Fathers to Sons

Comforts Funds are arising all over the country. Every Regiment has its Comforts Fund, started by the Colonel's wife or the local Mayoress. I hear this month of a charming application of this idea in St. Dunstan's itself. Two or three of the men at the Home, with the aid of Matron and Mr. Huskinson, have started a little unofficial fund, to be subscribed only by St. Dunstan's men themselves, for the purpose of sending Comforts to

the sons of St. Dunstaners who are serving at Home or Abroad. The men in the Home are subscribing; some of the V.A.D.'s and staff are knitting socks and mittens and helmets and scarves, and already the first parcels have gone off.

Matron asks that St. Dunstaners who have sons serving in the Forces at Home or Abroad will send her their names, numbers, regiments and addresses. This little fund does not pretend to provide for all at once—it may only be able to cover some of the names over a long period, but parcels of comforts will be sent out in rotation as the names come in and as the funds permit.

Happy Christmas

Lady Fraser and I send our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all our St. Dunstan's friends and their families.

IAN FRASER.

Food Rationing and the Brighton Home

AN Order comes into force on the 8th January, 1940, rationing certain foodstuffs and this Order will apply to all persons staying at the Home.

All St. Dunstaners are, therefore, requested to take their ration books with them when proceeding to the Brighton Home, and hand them to the Matron on arrival.

News from New Zealand

AT a Conference held in Auckland this year, D. McPhee, of Auckland, had the honour of being elected President of the New Zealand 'Trained Masseurs' Association, while another St. Dunstaner, W. T. Woods, of Christchurch, was elected as one of the three Vice-Presidents.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to them both.

★ ★ ★

J. Chisholm, of Waihope, North Auckland, sending Christmas wishes to all at St. Dunstan's, adds:

"I had a piece of bone come out of the muscle of my right arm three weeks ago; the piece was over an inch long and was apparently splintered by the war wounds, but had not shown up in the X-ray plates.

"I hear that Johnston, of Christchurch, has been laid up with appendicitis.

"The year has not been a good one for me, as we had a very dry summer. Two fires got on to the place and I lost a lot of trees, and what was a lagoon is now a large lake, as much soil was burned. If needs must we will not starve, as there must be at least a million frogs in it just now!"

A Useful Black-out Device

W. BENTLEY, of Whetstone, has had made for him an ingenious yet simple device for use in the black-out.

A piece of flex runs from an ordinary small torch case and battery to a disc made of a small boot-polish tin. A small oblong has been cut in the centre of the tin and a piece of glass is behind it. The word "Blind" is written in black letters on a piece of white tissue paper and placed at the back of the glass. A small bulb behind does the rest.

The device is fitted in the lapel button-hole by a piece of wire, and the battery is carried in the pocket, and can be switched on at will.

It is particularly useful when wishing to cross the road, and also is a warning to oncoming pedestrians.

Miss Deane

ALL St. Dunstaners, and in particular those who have for so long enjoyed the benefit of Miss Deane's friendly help and encouragement in the Music Department, will hear with interest of her engagement to Mr. Alan Pulkington, of Newbury, and will join with us in sending her our very best wishes.

Matron's Christmas Message

MY DEAR BOYS,

I wish it was possible for me to fly round and give you all a shake of the hand, but instead I am sending once again, through the medium of the REVIEW, my warmest Christmas greetings. To each one of you, your wives and families, I send this message: God bless you all and keep you safe.

Ever your friend,

WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD.

Captain Von Rintelen at Roedean

THANKS to the generous hospitality of Miss Tanner, St. Dunstaners and staff staying in the new Home on November 5th, had the unique opportunity of hearing, in Captain von Rintelen's own words, some of his many varied and dangerous adventures during the last war.

Miss Tanner having introduced the speaker, and expressed her pleasure at having present the men of St. Dunstan's, von Rintelen commenced a talk which held everyone's interest for one and a half hours. His voice was slow and distinct, and lent colour to his words by not wholly having lost its German accent. During his talk (which was delightfully informal), we were told of the chance events which led to his appointment in the German Intelligence Service, and after relating his first escape from England at the outbreak of hostilities, he gave his audience the choice of hearing either the Copenhagen incident or that dealing with the Dardanelles. The girls of Roedean unanimously voted for the former, and von Rintelen thereupon told us, quite briefly, how he was sent to, and eventually did, secure for Germany a shipment of machine guns, a task which was by no means easy, owing to the fact that several other governments were also trying to obtain them. This was the only time that von Rintelen came upon the traditional platinum blonde of the "spy" films.

Throughout his lecture, Captain von Rintelen gave us very amusing and clever impersonations of German officers, Americans, English customs officials and statesmen, and of those "recently escaped from Oxford." In this, and in his expressions, he gave ample proof of a versatile and lively humour, a quality, he said, he had come to admire greatly in the English.

His success in Copenhagen led to his being sent to America, and so to his subsequent downfall. From New York his aim was to disorganise any shipping destined to aid the Allies, and to do this, von Rintelen told us how he found it necessary to be five different people, and he explained how one person can live in five hotels at once, run four offices, and a Trade Union. We were all given numerous tips about passports, and advice on how to use "guts" in tight corners, as though at least 90 per cent. of the audience were contemplating commenc-

ing his hazardous work the next day!

Eventually he drew to a close by telling of his final capture in England, but of the many years of enforced idleness in America which followed his capture he said next to nothing, and all felt that they were years that he would rather forget.

Before closing, everyone will wish me to say "thank you" to Mrs. Wix, as it was really through her that St. Dunstan's was able to attend the lecture at Roedean School.

H.V.K.

For Pipe Smokers

FOR the past two years, the makers of "Hurricane" pipes have generously offered a limited number of their pipes to St. Dunstan's men, at half-price. The pipe has already proved very popular amongst St. Dunstaners, as it is particularly adapted to the needs of blind smokers.

This offer has again been renewed, and any St. Dunstaner wishing to take advantage of it should apply to Messrs. Nutt Products, Ltd., 195 Oxford Street, London, W.1, enclosing a postal order (crossed and made payable to Nutt & Co.), for 5s. 3d., and mentioning that he is a St. Dunstan's man.

The Downs

*O lovely downs ; O wide and glorious downs,
A fitting ally of our southern shore,
A bulwark 'gainst the sea that fiercely frowns
Upon thy rampart cliffs and rocky floor ;
Oft hast thou raised my mind from lowly state
To higher realms, more fair to contemplate.*

*O lovely downs ; above thy steep ascent,
So dear to youth, so stressful to the old,
A tonic air, a wind made evident
With tang of sea, or chill with northern cold,
Revivies the limbs to fuller energy
And sluggish brain to fine activity.*

*O well remembered downs. My mind retains
A glimpse of summer sea 'neath sky of blue,
Or else the patchwork Weald with leafy lanes,
A smudge of woody smoke, a spire or two ;
Near neighbours these that rest the weary eye,
And soothe the soul to sweet serenity.*

*O friendly downs ; thou art a fellowship
Of beauty offered freely to the mind
That cares to claim thy close companionship ;
And which, while conscious of the links that bind
All nature lovers, see those ties advanced,
And nearer friendships ripened and enhanced.*

The "Poultry" Lunch

IN past years it has been the custom to invite the prize-winners in the St. Dunstan's Section of the National Egg Laying Test to attend at the dinner organised by the Test, and there be presented with their prizes.

This year, owing to a spot of bother abroad, the dinner was abandoned, but the prize-winners of St. Dunstan's, at any rate, were able to meet at a luncheon at the Euson Hotel, on November 22nd.

Although chicken was not the main dish (to be honest, it was steak and kidney pie, which made some people fear they had lost their appetites), there was nothing "ersatz" about the lunch, and it, as well as all the other proceedings, went down very well.

Sir Ian and Lady Fraser were present. Sir Ian congratulated the prize-winners on the performances of their birds, and after welcoming the visitors of the Press, and naming Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Rose as those of the Staff who were present, he told them of the plans St. Dunstan's has for any new St. Dunstaners who may be fitted for country life activities.

As representing the National Test, Mr. Strong, the Secretary, was able to be with us before, though not during, the lunch, and Sir Guy Hambling, Vice-Chairman, sent a telegram of good wishes.

Although many prizes had been sent direct, including a cockerel box and run, which might have proved difficult to handle, Sir Ian was able to close the proceedings by the formal presentation of cups and a cheque.

We regretted the absence of Fisher, of Dundee, who gained a prize (the cockerel box) for the best pen not receiving any other award, and of Hill, of Tideswell, whose pen of Wyandottes were best of its breed and received a cash prize of 50s.

The remaining prize-winners, however, had been able to come. Carpenter, of Kings Langley, was there. His pen of Rhode Island Reds had put up the best winter record, and had finished best pen of Rhode Island Reds and highest scoring pen in Test. In addition, his pen contained the best individual bird. So it is not surprising that he now holds the St. Dunstan's and the Jacobs and Spearman Challenge Cups, with miniatures, a gold and a silver medal, and cash prizes amounting to £11 13s.

Holmes, of Woburn, was there. He had scored with both his pens. His pen of White Leghorns was the best of its breed, second only to Carpenter's R.I.R. for the whole of the Test, and was actually highest scoring pen in which no bird had died. In addition, his No. 1 bird, his own choice of best, had beaten all the other No. 1 birds. His pen of Rhode Island Reds was the second best pen of Rhodes, and the third highest in the Section.

For these performances, he obtained the Powell-Owen silver miniature, a silver and a bronze medal, and cash prizes amounting to £15 1s.

Chaffin, of Leighton Buzzard, was there. His pen of Rhodes was the second highest scoring pen of which no bird had died, and gained a cash award of £2.

Lastly, Campbell, of Ashford, was there. His pen of Rhodes gained the £2 cash prize given by Mr. Walter Bradley, and allocated by the Test Management.

Congratulations to all the prize-winners and good luck for the Trials now in progress.

Telephonists and Business Men's Reunion

OVER one hundred St. Dunstan's telephonists and business men were present at the annual reunion lunch at Headquarters, on Saturday, November 18th.

Sir Ian Fraser presided, and among those present were Lady Fraser and Mrs. Moore; Mr. Ottaway, Mr. Banks, and Mr. Ferguson also travelled up from Brighton for the occasion.

In his speech, Sir Ian said that of the 104 St. Dunstan's telephonists and some 35 shorthand-typists and business men, about a dozen were displaced by the outbreak of war, but already eight of these were back at work.

The Government had included the blind among the priority classes to be evacuated, but St. Dunstan's men had preferred to stick to their jobs. Where evacuation had been reluctantly accepted, they had at once given active service to the local authorities. Sir Ian thought this was an example and a record of which St. Dunstan's and the country might be proud.

Canine Topics

The Alsatian

By H. MARSDEN

THIS breed of dog, as its name implies, is of German origin. Pre-war it was little known in this country, but in its native country it was known as the German sheepdog. As I have already said, very little was known about it, as only a few specimens were exhibited at shows held in this country. During the war, however, this breed of dog was taken up by the French military authorities, and used by them as police dogs. The British troops who came in contact with it knew it as the French police dog. In its work the breed did well and grew in favour.

After the war some dogs were brought to England, and at once the breed caught on. It grew rapidly in favour and, in 1919, the Alsatian Wolfdog Club was registered at the Kennel Club. At the time this Club was formed feeling against the Germans ran very high, and to have called it the German Sheepdog would have sent the breed right out of favour. However, more dogs were imported, the colours being sables or wolf-grey. As in all others of our breeds of dogs, a new fashion sprang up, and black and tans became the rage. One peculiar thing is noticeable to-day in this country, and that is that the black and tans are more fashionable on the Show Bench and the sables are still in demand as companions. From 1919 up to about 1927, very strong classes of Alsations were to be met with at shows all over this country. Since that time, however, classes have declined, and other breeds have come to the front.

About this time, after fashion had had its fling, the working qualities of the breed came into favour. In 1924 the Alsatian Club and League of Great Britain had been formed. In 1932 the Alsatian Sheep, Police and Army Dog Society was formed, to foster the working qualities of the dog.

At this stage, however, I must point out that, since the introduction, many outbreaks of ferocity against human beings, sometimes with fatal results, had occurred. Cases were brought to the notice of the public of breeders being mauled, even by dogs they had bred. Add to this sheep-worrying and savage attacks on other dogs without provocation. These facts made doggy people begin to wonder if the imports from

Germany had been true-bred Alsations. Was there some wild wolf in it? To meet the extraordinary demand, had menagerie wolf blood been used to obtain quick results?

These sudden reversals to wild type caused the breed to lose favour in the canine world. Dog-breeders well know that tainted progeny always appear in the fourth generation. As no actual proof could be obtained, the matter is still in doubt. Some people liked the breed, others detested it because of its unstable temper. I would hasten to point out that this instability of temper is not common in all the breed. In fact, some individuals are abnormally intelligent, to be of great service to St. Dunstaners and other blind persons.

(to be continued)

H.M.

A "National Service" Dog

I AM on the National Service register, but so far, except for a spot of work holding sandbags on Thursdays and Fridays, my valuable services as a Chief Air Warden, with a nose for gas and an ear for distinctive enemy aircraft, have been entirely overlooked. However, the local British Legion, in which I am the dynamic force at our one annual meeting, asked me to sell poppies on November 11th. So just after daylight, or rather as the dawn was breaking in the front line of the Castle Cary salient of the Home Front, Mac and Jack (Mac being the dog) stole silently out. Mac had a box securely strapped on his back, like the famous dog at Paddington. He was a huge success. He had sold his first basket of poppies before 8.30 a.m. The second was sold also in good time. There will be a lot of "Days" for St. Dunstan's, the Red Cross, etc., and that is just where we can do out bit. Mac ought to receive a canine V.C., for he drew attention by a valiant fight with an alien Chow, and his reward of victory was the sale of more poppies. Every time he shook himself, and the money rattled, Adolf, who is susceptible to psychic noises, shivered.

Now Mac and Jack are at the disposal of all and sundry, to round up loose cash for use in the Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., or to do other odd jobs that want doing, and that the boys want. Well there's the big idea!

A. RADFORD.

SPORTS CLUB NOTES

WINTER Sports at Brighton will begin in the old Netting Room at West House, Portland Place, on Thursday, January 11th, 1940, commencing at 3 p.m. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend and make the meetings as popular as they have been in the past.

R.A.O.B. News

CONGRATULATIONS to W. Lowings, of Sompting, who has had conferred upon him one of the highest offices in the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes.

At a meeting held in London in October, he was, after nomination, elected Grand Chamberlain of England, a position which has never been held by a blind man before.

The election takes place annually; the position of Chamberlain is the highest office which can be obtained in the Order, next to the Top and Bottom Chairs.

On December 2nd, Lowings took part in a ceremony at which the Order presented twenty ambulances to the Army Council on the Horse Guards Parade, the cost (£10,000) being borne entirely by the Order.

Lowings later had the honour of inspecting them, and afterwards met and chatted with the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Hore Belisha.

Competition Corner

Here is something to puzzle you during the Christmas holiday.

There are three vessels: 8 pint, 5 pint, and 3 pint. In the first is five pints of beer, in the second three pints, and the third two pints. The object is to measure one pint of beer, using only these three vessels.

A prize of 10/6 is offered to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, Monday, January 8th. Mark your envelopes "Competition" and address them to the Editor, at Headquarters, Regent's Park.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. Welland, of Guildford, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on December 3rd, and to Mr. and Mrs. A. Lane, of Bow, and Mr. and Mrs. Cole, of Aston, Birmingham, whose anniversaries were on December 12th.

Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson

The Memorial Service to Sir Arthur Pearson was held at the Chapel of the Brighton Home on Sunday, December 10th.

The Rev. Harold Gibb conducted the Service and the Lesson was read by Sir Neville Pearson.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson, our President, was present, with Sir Ian and Lady Fraser. A number of men from the Home, and the surrounding districts, were also present.

A wreath was laid on Sir Arthur's grave in Hampstead Cemetery on the morning of December 9th, by Sir Ian Fraser, who was accompanied by A. Crook and W. Collyer. A beautiful wreath of white chrysanthemums and lilies, red carnations and small red roses was also sent from St. Dunstan's telephonists.

Miss Huffam

HER many friends at St. Dunstan's will learn with the deepest regret of the death of Miss Huffam.

For eighteen years, until her resignation through ill-health in February, 1938, Miss Huffam gave kindly and devoted help to the men of St. Dunstan's, firstly, in the early days, at Cheltenham and Ilkley, and then for many years as Lounge Sister at the old Brighton Home in Portland Place. It was a matter of great regret to her that a serious operation made it impossible for her to continue her work at the new Home at Ovingdean.

Miss Huffam, who had been living in Yorkshire since her illness, died there suddenly on November 8th, as the result of a stroke twenty-four hours before. Miss Pease, who had been visiting in the neighbourhood, was able to attend the funeral, representing Miss Huffam's many friends at St. Dunstan's.

Birth

MILLER.—To the wife of W. Miller, of Chessington, Hook, on November 21st, a son.

Death

McAvoy.—We extend our deepest sympathy to J. McAvoy, of Mauchline, Scotland, whose wife passed away on November 24th, after a long illness.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE M. J. O'CARROLL
(4th Irish Regiment)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of M. J. O'Carroll, of Ballybrophy, Ireland.

Wounded on the Somme in July, 1916, O'Carroll was under St. Dunstan's care for a number of years, but he did not come for training on account of his age and health. He lived a very quiet life, and although his health had been failing for some time, his death from bronchial pneumonia, on October 28th, was unexpected.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades was among the flowers. O'Carroll was unmarried.

PRIVATE PATRICK KENNEDY
(2nd Irish Regiment)

By a sad coincidence, we have to announce the death of another Irish St. Dunstaner, P. Kennedy, of Thirls.

Enlisting as a private in September, 1914, Kennedy was wounded at Ypres in May, 1915. He, too, suffered from ill-health for many years and consequently did not come to St. Dunstan's for training, although he did a little wool rug-making.

He had been ill for some time and early in November was removed to hospital, where he passed away on November 8th.

Many townspeople, including a detachment from the British Legion, attended the funeral, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades and another from the Legion.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

DRIVER ALFRED HENRY COREY
(New Zealand Field Artillery)

WE were deeply sorry to receive news of the death of A. H. Corey, of New Zealand.

Corey enlisted in 1916 and was wounded in September, 1918, on the Hindenburg Line. In addition to his damaged sight, he received facial wounds which troubled him considerably.

Trained as a poultry farmer and netter, he married in England before leaving for New Zealand in July, 1921. In late years his health had not allowed him to take up work of a strenuous nature, although he kept his interest in his poultry and netting.

Corey leaves a widow and three children, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

SERGEANT GEORGE EDWARD BISHOP
(11th Royal Fusiliers)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of G. E. Bishop, of Peacehaven.

This St. Dunstaner was wounded in France in 1918, as a result of which one eye was removed, the other was damaged, and his left hand was also badly injured.

For a time Bishop kept some poultry and also did a little joinery but his health was against him, and during the last few years he was prevented from undertaking any occupation.

In spite of devoted care and attention, he gradually grew worse, and he died on November 13th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers. We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Bishop and her son and four daughters.

PRIVATE HENRY FOXWELL
(Labour Corps)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of H. Foxwell.

This St. Dunstaner served from 1914—1919, but on account of his age and health did not take any serious training. He was interested in rug-making, however, and up to the time of his admission to our Brighton Hospital some months ago carried on with this light occupation.

He was ailing for some time before his death, which occurred at the Hospital on the 21st November. A wreath from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades was among the flowers. He is buried at Brighton Cemetery.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his son and daughter-in-law.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 259—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

ON Monday, January 8th, the Chairman made one of his periodical speeches to the men, in the Lounge at Brighton.

This report of the speech takes the place of the Chairman's Notes this month. Sir Ian Fraser said: Considering that they had moved the Welfare Offices to Brighton, and that many members of the staff had been called up, and many other wartime difficulties, he thought the organisation of St. Dunstan's was working very smoothly. There were occasional delays and disappointments, but on the whole the men all over the country were receiving their regular work and their regular payments, children's allowances, etc., from St. Dunstan's satisfactorily. This was due to the splendid work of the staff, to which he paid a high tribute (applause).

Local Sales

The trading position was not very satisfactory. They were not selling all the goods that were coming in from the men; thus stocks were rising, and January and February were always bad months, but he felt sure that a shortage of commodities generally would set in as the war proceeded, and he hoped this would induce better sales.

He had heard of a few St. Dunstaners who had already succeeded in increasing their local sales. He hoped all would try to do this. If only every St. Dunstaner could sell one extra mat or basket a month, instead of sending it to St. Dunstan's, what a difference this would make. The Chairman reminded St. Dunstaners that they might all act as agents for selling St. Dunstan's goods, whether they made the particular goods or not. If any St. Dunstaner got an order, he could pass it through to the Sales Department, Raglan Street, Kentish Town. The goods would be delivered direct to the customer and the St. Dunstaner would receive the discount for having made the sale. Application could be made to Raglan Street for leaflets or a catalogue by those who thought they could make sales in this way.

In spite of all these difficulties, the Chairman said they could rest assured that St. Dunstan's would do everything possible to maintain the amount of work to which the men were accustomed.

He learned that the After-care Visitors, social and technical, were managing to pay their regular visits, in spite of travelling difficulties, and he was glad of this, for he felt that with their understanding and long experience they were a great source of comfort to St. Dunstaners and their families.

Reunions—?

As regards Reunions they were not sure whether they would be able to carry them out this year. They wanted to do so, because they knew how valuable these meetings were

in bringing St. Dunstaners in touch with Headquarters officials, to discuss business and other matters, and also how much they were appreciated as social gatherings; but there were travelling and A.R.P. difficulties. Now that trains took so much longer, and ran less frequently, it would be impossible for many men to go to their usual Reunions, and many bus services were also disorganised. Nor would it be possible to hold such large gatherings of blinded men as usually took place in, for example, Manchester, because the police authorities would not approve of such meetings on account of the risk of air raids. He thought it would be possible to hold a certain number of smaller meetings, but this would impose much travelling upon members of Headquarters Staff, and would keep them away from the office for a number of days, thus making it more difficult to deal with St. Dunstaners' affairs. He would ask the Editor of the REVIEW to print these words in the next number, so that St. Dunstaners all over the country could think about this matter and write him their views.

We Can All Help

Addressing himself particularly to the men in the Home to whom he was speaking, and to those who might be visiting there shortly, Sir Ian said:

"There is one way in which you can all help us. That is by realising that war conditions make the running of a great establishment like this more difficult. Some of our Staff have been called up; food is to be rationed, and petrol rationing has reduced transport. We still maintain a very high standard indeed in this Home, possibly the highest of any of its kind in the country (hear, hear). We will continue to do our best, but the splendid service you receive here when you are ill or convalescent can only be maintained by more work and devotion on the part of the staff. They give this only too willingly, but you can, and I know you will, all help by tolerance, patience, and independence. If sometimes you stay out at an appointment for an extra ten minutes and are late for lunch, you put extra work on the V.A.D.s and the Orderlies. If sometimes you are late in at night, and have forgotten to notify the Sister, you involve other people in extra work. These things occur very seldom, I know, but two or three acts of thoughtlessness like this occurring each day make more work for all concerned. I am sure I have only to ask you to bear this in mind and that you will respond (applause).

St. Dunstan's is not an institution with all kinds of rules and regulations. We have always relied upon the men themselves to uphold the good name of St. Dunstan's and maintain a code of behaviour which is high and exemplary. I am glad to hear that this continues, and that all who come to Brighton realise that whenever they go out, and wherever they go to, they are St. Dunstaners and carry with them the good name of our organisation."

Rationing

Rationing comes into force to-day in every home in Britain. There would be rationing also at this Home. There would, he knew, be some grumbling at this, and there was no harm in that because a good grouse often made you feel better, but it was well for them to remember that rationing was a protection for the community against rising prices, and that it was of special benefit to those with small fixed incomes. He feared that prices would probably rise as the war went on, but that they would rise much more quickly if there was no rationing. The plain fact was that, when such a tremendous effort had to be made to supply the Armed Forces and the Civilian Defence Forces with food, clothing, and equipment, there must be a shortage of these commodities for the civil population. Thus all of us who are not in the fighting forces will have to go without many things we were accustomed to in peace time. We must all try to do this cheerfully as our contribution towards winning the war.

So far as St. Dunstan's was concerned, he had already made a promise, and he repeated it, that they would do everything in their power to carry on the social services to which the men had become accustomed. There might have to be changes and even curtailments, but if these became necessary he would explain them fully to all concerned.

He did not know yet how far it would be possible in wartime to raise large sums of money for any cause, however good, but they could be assured that the funds St. Dunstan's already had in hand would be a sure guarantee to the men of the Great War that their needs

would not be overlooked. The Government had asked them to look after any new members of the Fighting Forces who lost their sight. The Government might ask them to undertake other responsibilities, for if great air raids descended upon Britain, many would find themselves in the front line. Whatever their duty turned out to be, they would do it, and he felt sure that all who composed St. Dunstan's—subscribers, staff, men, women, old and new, would work together to keep St. Dunstan's flag flying and help the country.

Concluding, Sir Ian said: "I know all will join with me in telling St. Dunstaners' sons how much we admire them at their posts of duty, and wishing them all the best of luck" (applause).

News of St. Dunstaners.

W. A. Muggeridge, of Great Bookham, is doing splendid work in his district by conducting a Citizens' Advice Bureau. Rent Act queries, Soldiers' Families Allowances, Billeting of Blind Persons, writing letters for aliens—these are but a few of the varied questions he is called upon to answer. It is hard work, but Muggeridge says he finds it intensely interesting.

★ ★ ★

A. Grogan, of Leeds, is now a proud grandfather. Furthermore, there is a great-grandfather and great-grandmother living.

★ ★ ★

J. R. Pease, of Pudsey, received a novel present at Christmas—a luminous walking stick.

★ ★ ★

W. T. Curtis-Willson, M.B.E., J.P., who is Managing Director of the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, has just concluded a tour of the B.E.F. He was one of a party who went over at the invitation of the War Office.

★ ★ ★

Mrs. Scott Pearey very much regrets that she has been unable to reply to many letters from friends. Her husband is seriously ill in hospital, suffering from war wounds.

★ ★ ★

Although he is not doing National Service work, such as A.R.P., H. Abbey, of Lightwater, has found a way to help, nevertheless. He has bought some St. Dunstan's trays, which have been raffled at the Women's Institute and the Village Club. The first realized 9s. 6d., and the second, £2 14s. 4d. (but a large bottle of whiskey was on this one!) The proceeds (which were made up of twopences) went to the Soldiers' Comforts Fund, and a Children's Party. Well done, Abbey!

The Long Arm of St. Dunstans

AFTER twenty-one years, H. W. Burnett, of Edmonton, has just heard from a sister in Canada—thanks to a member of St. Dunstan's staff.

When Burnett was wounded in April, 1918, a parcel sent to him in France by his sister was returned, marked "Wounded and missing." Ten months later the parcel reached Burnett, who naturally assumed that his sister had gone from her previous address; and not hearing from her all these years, had given up hope of seeing or hearing from her again.

She has been living in London, Ontario, and had a neighbour, named Hitchin. In conversation, he told her his brother was employed at St. Dunstan's Sales Department, while she spoke about Burnett's loss of an eye. On his advice, she wrote to Burnett at St. Dunstan's, the letter was forwarded, and once again he is in touch.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Sayers, of Birchington, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on December 26th.

A Removal

Mrs. G. J. Hollins (formerly Miss Stacey) has now moved to The Gate House, Whitchurch, Tavistock, Devon.

A Letter from Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

Many, many thanks to you all, your wives, big and little sons, and daughters, for your nice cards, calendars and letters of good wishes. They gave me great joy, and I just loved all your kind thoughts. The best of everything good to you all for 1940.

Ever your friend,

WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD.

St. Dunstan's,

Ovingdean,

Brighton News

THE programme of entertainments arranged for the Christmas holidays wove themselves into such a delightful pattern that those who were privileged to take part in the weaving will remember them with feelings of pleasure for many a long day. Everything went with such a swing—dances, concert, bridge, dominoes, and the hundred and one games which a large and happy gathering, for a few days throwing off dull care, can devise. Dinner on Christmas Day, at which over a hundred sat down, was unique in more ways than one; for the first time we had the pleasure of Sir Ian and Lady Fraser's company. Also, someone had the bright idea of linking up the old army and the new by inviting to dinner two members of the Searchlight Battery, stationed at (*blue pencil*). They were tremendously impressed by all they saw.

During dinner, Sir Ian made a short and characteristic speech, and Matron was then presented with a diamante decoration for her dress, after which telegrams of good wishes from friends all over the world were read. In the evening, much fun was evoked by the playing of Christmas games—but the high spot of the week was the performance of a potted version of "Cinderella," produced and performed by members of the staff, and which is reported elsewhere. The whole affair was a riot of fun from beginning to end.

The grand finale was a dance on New Year's Day. Owing to the black-out and the difficulty of transport, this was held from three to seven p.m. Here again everybody made the most of the opportunity and let themselves go with a will which filled the afternoon with four hours' pure joy.

"OBSERVER."

A True Yorkshire Story

During the Great War, 1914—1918, a woman I knew was walking down one of the roads leading into Spenborough. The night was dark and no lights were allowed. Soon she heard footsteps approaching, so began calling out "Keep to the right; keep to the right; keep to the——" bang! and a man's voice exclaimed: "It's all reight, missus, yo' callin' aht 'Keep to the reight,' but yor keepin' ta t'left!"

"Cinderella" a la St. Dunstan's

ST. DUNSTANERS enjoyed a rollicking evening's entertainment on Thursday, December 28th, when the V.A.D.s gave a performance of the pantomime "Cinderella." This fairy tale has been produced in many circumstances, in many climes, and has had a variety of audiences, but rarely, if ever, has it been given, or received, in circumstances comparable with the performance at Ovingdean.

The audience included the wives, children and friends of St. Dunstaners now "in residence," and it was pleasing to see our Chairman and Lady Fraser, the Misses Fraser (Sir Ian's cousins), Mr. and Mrs. Askew, Mrs. Davenport (wife of our Medical Commandant), and Mrs. Paul (wife of Commander Paul, Commandant at St. Dunstan's prior to the outbreak of war), among those present, all of whom were warmly welcomed by our beloved Matron, Miss Boyd-Rochfort.

A pantomime for such an audience as one meets at St. Dunstan's was an audacious and enterprising conception, and all concerned, from author of the dialogue and producer to the scene shifter, are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their efforts. It was good, all-round Christmas fare, with a blend of irresistible comedy, wit, and humour impregnated with local colour and personality, reference to popular haunts (not always within the bounds of St. Dunstan's) and incident which created endless fun, all of which were keenly appreciated by St. Dunstaners. It was this element of humorous content, hit and quip, that rendered it so jolly and interesting an entertainment—in fact, a veritable "Cinderella" a la St. Dunstan's.

The Entr'acte, "Running commentary on the St. Dunstan's Stakes"—a good imitation of a typical Woodruffian B.B.C. description of the "Derby"—given by Mr. Davenport, our Commandant, was particularly clever, both in the script reference and the rendering, and evoked uproarious laughter, as he related incident after incident in the "race" to St. Dunstan's. It was a gorgeous leg-pull which every St. Dunstaner appreciated, and none more so than Tommy Rogers, "who won by a stiff-leg," H. Kerr, and A. Waite, "occupying second and third places," and T. Powell, "bringing up the rear."

As to the pantomime, the immortal story of "Cinderella" was recognisable in skeleton, although in detail not strictly conforming to the nursery book version. A strong vein of originality ran through the script, and the clue was certainly modern. Not, was it, the dainty shoe of the forlorn maid of all work, but a small size gas mask, which neither of the Ugly Sisters had the remotest chance of wearing, despite their efforts at adjustment.

The hit of the evening was the performance of the Ugly Sisters—Lady Esmerelda and Lady Griselda—with Mr. Davenport and Miss E. Hickley sustaining these roles respectively. Their dialogues and by-play, which produced a number of awkward situations, were excruciatingly funny, especially in their efforts to win the favours of the handsome Prince Truelove—Miss K. Poole. Miss Tippet made a delightful "Cinderella," as demure as any story book could make her.

But it was all good fun, and the genuine spirit of enjoyment of the evening's entertainment was expressed at the close by the presentation of a box of chocolates to "Cinderella" and a bouquet—a large size cabbage and two potatoes on short sticks—to "Lady Esmeralda."

The cast was as follows:—

Prince Truelove	-	Miss K. Poole
Nit-Wit (his Page)	-	Miss M. Byolin
Baron Figtree	-	Miss M. Keily
Baroness Henrietta		
Figtree (his Wife)		Miss Vaughan Davies
Lady Esmeralda	-	Mr. R. C. Davenport
Lady Griselda	-	Miss E. Hickley
Fairy Godmother	-	Miss J. Ginner
Cinderella	-	Miss E. Tippet
Spi	} Detectives	Mrs. Cohn
Cop		Miss Peacock
Fredrico, a Servant		Miss Poole

Miss M. Keily was responsible for most of the script and Miss Davies composed the lines of the Prologues. Miss W. Saunt was excellent in her recital of theme, and also proved herself a most efficient producer.

Credit must also be given to Mr. Austin (I/c. Transport), who was responsible for the costumes and scenes, whilst Mr. Sawyer looked after the electrical effects and Mr. W. Hawketts was a tower of usefulness here, there, and everywhere.

Mr. Huskinson, a good friend of St. Dunstan's, and Miss Clode, supplied the musical numbers.

A "Good Companion" Marries St. Dunstaner

From the "Brighton and Hove Herald"
December 16th

VOLUNTEERING her services to St. Dunstan's Home at Ovingdean as a Good Companion, Miss Frances Mary Harwood, a native of Worcester, who has for some time past made her home with her brother-in-law, at Pavilion Buildings, Brighton, met and fell in love with a blinded ex-soldier, Mr. John Unsworth, of Chester Street, Warrington, Lancs.

Their romance had a happy sequel on Thursday, when the couple were married at the Chapel Royal, Brighton, in the presence of a number of friends, men of St. Dunstan's, and members of the staff.

The bride was given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. W. J. Allen. Another blinded ex-Service man, Mr. W. Astbury, attended the bridegroom as best man, and the well-known blind musician, Dr. Leonard Marsh, F.R.C.O., was the organist.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. M. W. H. Nichols.

Afterwards a reception was held at the Royal Pavilion Hotel, where a large number of friends and well-wishers gathered.

Among the company in Church and at the reception were Miss Boyd-Rochfort (Matron at St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean), several of the bridegroom's blinded colleagues, and members of the nursing staff.

Mr. and Mrs. Unsworth are going to live at Hollingbury.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR EDITOR,

Sir Ian's reference to our deaf-blind St. Dunstaners, mentioned in the December issue of the REVIEW, should do much to promote a greater interest in the lives of our fellow-men, and I should like to recommend a little book which I feel sure would assist all concerned.

This book *A Manual Alphabet for the Deaf-Blind*, by Edward Evans, can be obtained from the N.I.B., Catalogue No. 11038, which would be invaluable in learning this method of communication with our deaf-blind comrades.

Yours sincerely,

W. A. MUGGERIDGE.

Canine Topics

The Alsatian (*continued*)

AS I have already said, the breed had made great headway in this country. Some specimens were also exported to the U.S.A. In that country fanciers did not go into hysterics over the newcomer. In due course, it was recognised by the American Kennel Club as a breed, under the title of German Sheepdog, its correct name. On the Continent: France, Belgium, Germany, and Albania each had its own type of the breed.

The French type resembles a dog much more than any of the others, which resemble the wolf, both in colour and lope.

The Belgian type is not so large as the German, and it is smaller in the head.

The French type is similar to that of a small Great Dane, no wolf type at all. It is used in the Army and by the Police.

The Albanian type is not a sheepdog, but a guard dog, and a very ferocious one, too, as that is its work.

The German variety is used as a police dog, defence dog, war dog, Red Cross dog, and blind lead dog, and last, but not least, the purpose for which it was bred, to look after sheep.

In this country, after it had nearly gone under owing to the fierce hostility of the public and press, and the word wolfdog was dropped in 1927, the craze for this breed had reached its peak, and a serious attempt was made to train it, many training kennels being started. Training was for police, guards, and for leading the blind. Training for the latter work is very expensive and arduous, demanding a tremendous amount of patience and tact. The cost may be anything up to £100. A special harness is provided for the use of the blind person, which fits around the dog's shoulders. By this means, the "led" person becomes aware of the slightest movement of the dog.

The strongest point the Alsatian should have is the Wolf gait. How has this become so pronounced in what was originally a sheepdog? It is known that, from the year 1870, the Germans regularly crossed their sheepdogs with wolf blood. They thus allied the honest working qualities of their domesticated dogs with the wolf's non-domestic characteristics. The resultant progeny thus showed the wolf

coat, gait, and also that pronounced timidity, so common to specimens that were imported into this country when the "craze" caught on. In the hands of sound English breeders, this "wolf" blood has very largely "bred out," by introducing more reliable traits into the character, *i.e.*, stability of temperament, which is more noticeable as a result.

White-coated Alsatis are now on the market for "guide" purposes in the "black-out."

H.M.

Braille Publications

AT the outbreak of war, the National Institute for the Blind suspended most of their Braille publications, but as St. Dunstaners will already have heard from a circular letter which we sent out, most of these have been resumed. In our circular letter, we gave a full list of Braille magazines that are available, and we asked readers if they would be good enough to state, on a postcard which was enclosed, the names of those magazines they required. Many of you have replied. However, we have heard of some St. Dunstaners who have not been receiving their magazines as regularly as they did in pre-war days. This should not be the case. Therefore, if there is any St. Dunstaner who is not receiving the Braille literature he needs, will he please write to Miss Pain at Brighton, who is now looking after all matters relating to Braille.

Young St. Dunstaners

Eric, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ruston, of Poole, was married a few months ago, and is now a private in the Dorset Regiment.

★ ★ ★

Harry, son of A. Sterno, of Bath, was married in October, and joined a Searchlight Training Unit of the R.A. in November.

★ ★ ★

Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Morgan, Tredegar, was married just before joining up in the R.A.M.C. in October.

★ ★ ★

Two young St. Dunstaners are on H.M.S. *Revenge*. The eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, of Sprotborough, is one, and the other is Edwin Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Brooks, of Bourne-mouth. Edwin is Leading Boy in charge of his Mess. He is an excellent boxer and hopes one day to box for his ship.

Kathleen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Iddiols, of Paddington, was married on November 4th to Mr. L. J. Humphry.

★ ★ ★

Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Kerr, of Widnes, was married on December 12th. Kerr writes: "This will mean that we have in the family John, my eldest, in the Air Force; Joseph, the second, in the Canadian Ordnance Corps; Arthur Pearson, No. 3, is serving in the King's Dragoon Guards, and now a soldier son-in-law."

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Spackman, of Dagenham, now have five sons serving in the Army—two in Egypt and three "somewhere in Suffolk."

★ ★ ★

Kitty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Farrell, of St. Leonard's, was married, very quietly, on September 9th.

★ ★ ★

Rosaleen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Richardson, was married to Mr. J. P. Scully, at Holy Trinity Church, Hammersmith, on December 2nd.

(We regret that many other notes are unavoidably held over until next month.)

Competition Corner

Answer to last month's problem:

Fill the 3 pint vessel from the 8 pint vessel; fill the 5 pint vessel from the 3 pint vessel. One pint is then left in the 3 pint vessel.

The first correct solution opened on January 6th, was sent in by P. Condon, of Cork, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent.

This Month's Problem

A train leaves London for Birmingham, which we will say is 100 miles, travelling at 25 miles an hour.

At the same time a bird, starting in the opposite direction from Birmingham, travels at 60 miles an hour, meets the train, turns back to Birmingham, turns again, meets the train, and continues backwards and forwards until both arrive at Birmingham.

How many miles has the bird travelled?

Ten shillings and sixpence to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, February 6th. Mark your envelope, "Competition Corner," and send it to the Editor, St. Dunstan's Review, Regent's Park.

Sports Club Notes

Walks

There will be a 3-mile Walk from Regent's Park on Saturday, February 24th, starting at 2.15 p.m.

Will you please send in your entries to the Sports Office as soon as possible.

Brighton Summer Sports, 1939

RESULTS

B Section

1st	Peach, C.	...	...	...	110
2nd	Dickinson, T.	...	...	...	105
3rd	Ashe, T.	...	...	...	85

A Section—

1st	Gannaway, W. F.	...	...	...	100
2nd	Rouse, J. T.	...	...	...	85
3rd	Lidbetter, G.	...	...	...	55

Bridge Club

THE Annual General Meeting of St. Dunstan's Bridge Club will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, at 6 o'clock, at Headquarters, Regent's Park.

Please send your suggestions for the Committee to consider for the Agenda.

All St. Dunstaners interested will be welcome.

H.G.

A team of twelve St. Dunstaners met a team from the Civil Service Association, Contract Bridge Section, in a duplicate match on December 16th. The Civil Servants defeated us by 7,200 points.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

KNIGHTS.—To J. J. Knights, of Romford, who lost his father on December 16th, and suffered a further loss by the death of his uncle four days later.

WATLING.—To H. Watling, of Wirral, whose father, with whom he lived, has recently passed away.

Miss Mary Wilson

We have heard with deep regret of the death of Miss Mary Wilson, whom many St. Dunstaners will remember as a sister in the Dispensary at St. John's Lodge. Miss Wilson, who was an enthusiastic air-woman, died after a long and trying illness, an indirect result of an aeroplane accident some years ago.

“ In Memory ”

MARTIN O'BRIEN
(*Royal Air Force*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of M. O'Brien, of Nenagh, Ireland.

O'Brien enlisted in 1915 and received his discharge two years later. He did not, however, come to St. Dunstan's until January, 1932. He was then too old to train, but he carried on with wool rug-making. He came to England for a holiday about once a year.

His death, which occurred in hospital on December 13th, was due to pneumonia. Two St. Dunstaners—Maher and Darbinson—attended the funeral. Among the many wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

GUNNER LEONARD ILSLEY
(*Royal Field Artillery*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of L. Ilsley, of Carshalton Beeches.

Ilsley was wounded in France a few days before the Armistice. As a result, both eyes were removed, and he also suffered a disability to his right leg.

He came to St. Dunstan's shortly afterwards, and in due course was trained as a telephone operator, working at the London School of Hygiene for the past ten years. Latterly his health had not been too good, and after the outbreak of war failed rapidly; he spent some little time in hospital, but in spite of skilled care and attention, he passed away on the 30th December.

The funeral took place a few days later, at Carshalton Parish Church, and was attended by members of his firm; St. Dunstan's was represented by S. Duncan, of Sutton. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Ilsley and her family in their great bereavement.

GUNNER ERNEST B. PARK
(*Royal Garrison Artillery*)

WE deeply regret to record the death of E. B. Park, of Fetcham, Leatherhead.

“Paddy,” as he was known to all his friends, served in the Army from 1914 to 1918, as a result of which his vision was affected, and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1925.

He took up poultry farming, but in later years gave this up in favour of telephone operating. He had a most congenial post at the Sun Assurance Office, Cornhill, where he was a great favourite with all the staff. Shortly after the firm evacuated to the country, they asked “Paddy” to return to them. He began to settle down quite happily, and when he started out for work on the morning of December 27th appeared to be in his usual good health and spirits. Just after arriving at the office he was taken ill and died on his way to hospital.

“Paddy” had expressed a desire to be cremated, and this arrangement was carried out, and the funeral service took place at Streatham Vale Crematorium a few days later.

We extend our very deep and sincere sympathy to Mrs. Park in her great sorrow.

PRIVATE WILLIAM HENRY TRUSSLER
(*Intelligence Department and Machine Gun Corps*)

WE have heard with deepest regret of the death of W. H. Trussler, of France.

Trussler was blinded in France as a result of an explosion. He came to St. Dunstan's, where he was trained in boot-repairing, and in due course returned to France, where he has lived ever since, with his wife and three daughters, paying an occasional visit to our Convalescent Home at Brighton.

For some years Trussler's health had not been good, and on his last visit to England it was noticed that he was far from well. He passed away on December 14th. A number of English soldiers were present at the funeral. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Trussler and her three daughters.

SERGEANT WILLIAM WATT
(*Cameron Highlanders*)

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of W. Watt, of Montrose.

Watt, who was an old campaigner and was in the Egyptian campaign, and the South African War, re-enlisted in his old regiment, the Cameron Highlanders, at the outbreak of the Great War. He was blinded in November, 1915, and entered St. Dunstan's a few days before his discharge in February, 1916.

Originally he was a poultry farmer and mat-maker, but of late years he has just done a little rug-work.

He was taken seriously ill whilst on holiday last year, at Cardiff, and was taken straight from hospital to his home, where he died on January 3rd.

Watt was a splendid character, and he will be greatly missed at Reunions. He was a splendid elocutionist, and a fine exponent of Burns' poetry; on one occasion he recited to a gathering of officers, which included Lord Kitchener.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Watt and her children.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 260—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Learning to be Blind

WHAT a wealth of experience and knowledge is stored up in the minds of nearly two thousand St. Dunstaners who have been blind for many years, some for twenty-five. How to gather this experience and knowledge, and make it useful? This is a question that has been exercising my mind for some time. T. G. Roden, a Canadian St. Dunstaner, who practises osteopathy and massage in London, suggests to me that we should try and collect these ideas and promote research into the overcoming of the difficulties of the blind.

Each of us, I am sure, has something to contribute from his own personal experience. Perhaps it will be a suggestion as to an easier way of learning this or that, an easy way to learn to get about alone or shave oneself, or to typewrite or to read braille, or learn a handicraft or profession. Perhaps it is some hint or tip about the day-to-day overcoming of blindness. The first big offensive in the spring may, for all we can tell, bring new casualties, and it is not too soon to begin to think about these matters. Will every St. Dunstaner put his thinking cap on and write me a letter or paper or memorandum, setting forth his best contribution towards the important task of bringing together the experience of our generation to help the new young men who may so soon be brought to us? When I see what kind of material is forthcoming, I shall be able to decide, with the best advice I can obtain, what is the best way to use it. Perhaps we could publish some of the papers, or make a booklet out of the various contributions and suggestions that are forthcoming. No aspect of learning to be blind is unimportant, no hint or tip that would make it easier is too small to be brought to light.

Will any who read these lines, and care to do so, write me their views—and let us include our wives in the invitation. Please write now while the idea is in mind, before it is forgotten.

Be Well-informed

Ben Hamilton, in a letter, reminds me of the importance of being well informed. It is important for any man, but particularly I think to a blind man, to know what is going on in the world outside. To be well informed about matters of the moment, to be well read—these are all qualifications within our grasp. We can follow a series of talks on the wireless, or read some of the more serious braille magazines or books in the Talking Book Library, or pick up information and ideas by talking to people. Thus we make our lives more interesting and make ourselves better companions.

Hamilton makes the point, also, that if the contribution blind people can make to winning the war is limited, there is at least one direction in which we can all help, namely,

by having a clear idea in our minds as to what the war is about, as to the importance of maintaining the country's morale and of encouraging every proper war effort. Any one of us who cares to take trouble in this direction can become in himself a very important part of the war effort—a kind of unofficial agent of the Ministry of Information. I think the suggestion well worth consideration.

St. Dunstaners' Children O.H.M.S.

I think it will be a matter of interest to St. Dunstaners generally to hear from time to time whatever news is available about their boys and girls who are serving in various units of the Army, Navy, Air Force, auxiliaries, and national services. I am asking the Editor to publish a list each month and to give such items of news as may be received. Readers will realise that to comply with the regulations of the Censor, only the briefest particulars can be given, and that there can be no addresses.

Apart from lists, there may be items of news, such as promotions, decorations, or the fact that a boy was in a particular action, or a girl engaged in a particular piece of war work at any time. The first list appears this month, on page 4, and is made up from information which has come to our office from various sources. The Editor cannot be responsible for collecting all information from all departments of St. Dunstan's, so that if a name is omitted, it is up to the parents to write direct to the Editor, giving particulars.

The little St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund, I hear, is going strong. A number of St. Dunstan's officers and men have contributed, and many of their wives are knitting. So are many of the staff. A steady flow of parcels goes out to those who are on service.

Let me advise those wives who are knitting Balaclava helmets not to make the same mistake my wife made last week-end. She was knitting so fast that she knitted two ears on the right-hand side of her Balaclava helmet, instead of putting one on each side.

The Talking Book

In every sphere we are trying to carry on as normally as possible, in spite of war difficulties. The Talking Book is a case in point. We are still recording and producing new books regularly. Before the war we had reached the stage of producing and publishing forty new books a year. We are not maintaining this high level, but are producing something between twenty-four and thirty. This may mean that the old readers will have a slightly less varied choice, but the limitation will not be a severe one. As regards new readers who join the Library now, or during the next few months, they, of course, have the immense advantage that all the books in the Library are new to them.

There are 157 titles produced by the Talking Book Committee in England, and 152 produced in America. They represent every branch of literature, fiction, and thrillers predominating, but travel, biographies, and a small number of more serious works are included.

We are ordering a substantial number of new machines, as we expect the number of readers to increase materially during the year. Any St. Dunstaner who has not yet made up his mind to secure a Talking Book should go into the matter now. It is difficult to exaggerate the pleasure which it has given to more than five hundred of our men already.

Horace Kerr, who is in charge of this Department so far as St. Dunstan's is concerned, has been back at Headquarters for some weeks, and a letter or telephone message to him will secure full particulars.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

I had the honour of taking the chair at the Annual Meeting of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club the other afternoon. There were about seventeen St. Dunstaners present, and decisions were taken as to the programme for the coming season. The Committee, consisting of H. Gover, E. Toft, and Drummer Downs, were re-elected. To Gover goes the credit for having started and fostered this Club, which, though young, is progressing extremely favourably. Bridge Drives, a Bridge League Competition, and matches with outside Bridge Clubs, form part of their programme; experts are invited up to play with the members, and to explain some of the intricacies of modern systems of bidding, and a very high standard is being attained.

I am not myself an expert Bridge player, but can take a hand in an ordinary friendly game. I can say from my own personal experience, as well as from that of many blind friends of mine, what an excellent game Bridge is, and I should like to encourage any who have not thought of taking it up to do so. I am afraid that an organisation like the Bridge Club could, hardly be created outside of London, owing to lack of members, but there is no reason why St. Dunstaners in other towns should not get together and form small Bridge Groups, and it is open to all to try and find a neighbour or friend who will teach them.

Many congratulations to the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club, which is doing so well, and making our name known in yet another field.

IAN FRASER.

News of St. Dunstaners

G. Swindell, of Nottingham, has just completed forty years' service with Messrs. Player & Sons, and in accordance with the firm's practice, a special photograph has been taken, to be hung in the firm's Hall, among the photographs of all who have given this long period of service.

★ ★ ★

J. Butler, of Waterford, has been elected Vice-President of the Waterford A.C.C. His eldest daughter, who is also a cyclist of repute, has offered to race against men, but this has been turned down by the Board. It has resulted, however, in a challenge from the Cork lady champion. Butler himself challenges any other St. Dunstaner and his escort to a tandem cycle race over any distance.

★ ★ ★

G. M. King, of Leicester, is a proud grandfather.

★ ★ ★

G. C. Jackson, of Ashford, Kent, who has been a member of Toc H for the past two years, has been elected to the Committee for the coming year. The Duke of Kent had a special word for Jackson when he visited Ashford a few months back.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations to P. Ashton and L. P. Saxton, telephonists, who have now started work again after a spell of idleness caused by evacuation. Saxton has filled the vacancy caused by the death of "Paddy" Park.

★ ★ ★

A. R. Clover, as Chairman of his Village Club for the second year in succession, has had a busy time lately working for the comfort of troops billeted in the vicinity.

★ ★ ★

J. Ingram, of Maidenhead, has also found a way of helping our Services. He and two local ladies organised a Bridge Tournament, which raised £12 for a Cigarette Fund. As a result, 10,000 cigarettes went to the Berkshire Regiment overseas.

How Are You Helping?

Clover and Ingram are typical of many St. Dunstaners who are doing their bit in this war. We have already published ways in which other St. Dunstan's men are helping.

Send us a note letting us know what you are doing, in any little way, to help to win the war. It would be of interest to us, and also to other St. Dunstaners, who might like to follow your example in their own districts.

A Link with the "Graf Spee"

In a letter to Sir Ian, J. P. Farrell, of St. Leonard's-on-Sea, writes :—

"This season of the year brings many old memories back to me; it is just forty years ago that I joined His Majesty's Service. It has reminded me of my boyhood days even more than usual, with the inglorious ending of the *Graf Spee*, for among the prisoners on that ship was a very old friend of mine, Captain Stubbs, of the *Doric Star*. His father and I served our apprenticeship together, and I used to nurse Captain Stubbs when he was still a baby in long clothes, although I have not met him for the past twenty years."

St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund

BY the time this notice appears in the REVIEW, 55 parcels will have been despatched to the sons of St. Dunstaners.

Owing to the increasing number of names on our list, and the limitation of funds (these funds are all supplied by contributions from our men and their friends), the Committee have found it necessary to abide strictly by the original idea that this fund shall be used only for the sons of St. Dunstaners.

Will the parents of these boys please notify us at once of any change of address.

Sons in the Services

BACK, Sidney, H.M.S. *Rodney*.
 BACK, Leslie, H.M.S. *Edinburgh*.
 BLACKETT, Air Fitter Apprentice Leslie, Fleet Air Arm, Royal Navy.
 BREWER, Gunner Albert, (Redruth), 334-135 Field Regiment.
 BROOKS, Leading Boy Edwin, H.M.S. *Revenge*.
 BYRD, Private Billy, Royal Air Force.
 EDEN, Signaller Stanley, H.M.S. *Valiant*.
 DICKINSON, Sydney (North Moulsecoomb), R.N.V.R.
 GLASSPOOL, Private Charles, Anti-Aircraft, Royal Engineers.
 HADFIELD, Driver Alec, Field Company.
 HADFIELD, Boy Donald, Army Technical Training School.
 HART, Marine Joe, H.M.S. *Renown*.
 HILL, Gunner W. (Gloucester), Royal Artillery.
 HILL, Trooper Jack (Gloucester), 2nd R.G.H.
 HILL, Seaman Bert (Liverpool), H.M.S. *Edinburgh*.
 HORSNELL, Gunner Arthur, Anti-Aircraft Training Unit.
 KERR, John (Widnes), Royal Air Force.
 KERR, Joseph (Widnes), Canadian Ordnance Corps.
 KERR, Arthur (Widnes), King's Dragoon Guards.
 LEWIS, Private Jim (Gwaum-cae-Curwen), 15th Welch Regiment.
 LORAM, 1st Class Stoker Jack, H.M.S. *Dorsetshire*.
 LORAM, Marine Bill, H.M.S. *Diomedé*.
 LUCOCQ, Aircraftsman Kenneth, Royal Air Force.
 MAKER, Driver Mechanic, Anti-Aircraft (Royal Artillery).
 MILLARD, Rifleman N., 1st Monmouthshire Regiment (Tredegar).
 MORGAN, Private Arthur (Tredegar), Royal Army Medical Corps.
 PAYNE, Lance-Corporal John (Cardiff), 38th Welsh Divisional Signals.
 PERRETT, Boy John, H.M.S. *Nelson*.
 RENDELL, Sapper W. J., 224 Field Company.
 RUSTON, Private Eric, 5th Bn. Dorset Regiment.
 STERNO, Gunner Harry (Cardiff), Searchlight Training Unit, Royal Artillery.
 THOMAS, Aircraftsman Fred (Cardiff), Royal Air Force.
 THOMAS, Corporal Jack (Cardiff), Royal Air Force, 67th Searchlight Unit.
 THOMPSON, Robert (Sprotborough), H.M.S. *Revenge*.
 WILLIAMS, Corporal Billy (Usk), 4th Monmouthshire Regiment.
 WOODROW, Private W., 2nd Bn. Suffolk Regiment.
 WOODROW, Private J. A., 2nd Bn. Suffolk Regiment.
 WOODROW, Private A. H., 7th Bn. Royal Tank Corps.
 WOODROW, Private F. E., Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Canine Topics

H. Marsden, of Liskeard, whose article, "Canine Topics" is most unavoidably held over this month owing to lack of space, writes that he would be glad to help St. Dunstaners upon any problems concerning their pets. He is himself a dog breeder of wide experience. His address is Cornelly, St. Ive, Liskeard, Cornwall.

From England to New Zealand

BELOW is an amplified report of cables which have passed between our Chairman in London and Donald McPhee, Chairman of the Blinded Soldiers Group in New Zealand, on the occasion of the celebration in New Zealand of one hundred years of British rule.

London.

January 23rd, 1940.

McPHEE,

Auckland, New Zealand.

Congratulations upon Centenary. New Zealand has set an example to the Commonwealth in blind welfare, due to the early and enlightened legislation and progressive outlook of the New Zealand Institute. I rejoice that the outstanding development of the care of the blind during the last quarter of a century is attributable to the gospel of hope and victory over blindness brought back to New Zealand by Mackenzie, McPhee, Wood, and other returned soldiers, who had learned to be blind at St. Dunstan's. Good luck to New Zealand blind.

FRASER.

Whangarei,

New Zealand.

IAN FRASER,

St. Dunstan's.

New Zealand blind sincerely appreciate Centennial message. Its blinded soldiers are grateful for their training at St. Dunstan's and retain happy memories of the kindness extended to them in England. Light has come out of darkness, and the Torch still burns brightly.

DONALD MCPHEE.

Competition Corner

The correct solution to last month's problem was 240 miles.

The first correct entry opened on February 6th was sent in by J. R. Brown, of Nuneaton, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. has been sent.

How Many Girls?

There were 44 young people at a picnic. The number of boys was 16 fewer than twice the number of girls. How many girls? 10s. 6d. to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, March 6th. Mark your envelopes, "Competition Corner."

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. Ruston, of Poole, Dorset, who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on February 1st.

Never Again!

WE have recently returned from being evacuated, and the following will explain the cause of the "galloping home-sickness" that set in.

Having been warned that the best thing to do was to evacuate, I started off with three attache cases, one wife, one child, and some optimism. My wife counted eighty-four balloons while waiting for the bus. She remarked that the balloons looked like currant puddings, which, I said, was more than her puddings did. It was getting dark when we caught a bus, and our conductor had had a bad half-crown pushed on to him. We heard of it first; we heard of it last; we heard of it in between; maybe the bus journey seemed shorter for that reason; it seemed to take longer to cross the road at the station. We took our tickets and were just in time to see our train going out, which meant waiting until twelve midnight. We sat in the station cafe drinking coffee to capacity, and beyond.

You can well imagine we were pleased when the time came to get in the train, although it stopped at every station and a few more besides. We had nearly reached our changing station when the attendant came along and said "lights out." It was at one of those Horace Kenny stations, and Horace came up to us and asked if we would like to go down into the cellar. Being addicted to the quiet life we thought we would.

An hour later our train moved off and we arrived at Nottingham by 5 a.m., only to be reminded that we should still carry our gas-masks, which rather perturbed my wife.

The billet was awful! We had to buy our food in cafes the whole of the time we were there. All three of us slept in a bed which might more easily have held two, and I should say had been better on Syd Walker's barrow. We dare not open the window wide for fear of the brass knobs being blown off the bed. The constant falling off and putting on of said knobs sounded like an outsize in fretsaws at work. My wife did not sleep at all, but it was quite easy for me to drop off, sleeping on the edge.

The next day our landlady kept giving us a twelve-pound look, which my wife reciprocated with a fourteener, a state of

affairs usually leading up to the exchange of more tangible missiles. Fortunately, this time it did not.

The one highlight was the village post office. It was, and still is, I suppose, one of those places where you could have your hair cut and buy pot menders, etc. I had a haircut, and after serving me a bottle of hair-cream, the postmaster went out of his way on purpose to get behind a toast-rack so that he could shove my pension underneath: if he had given me a bat, I could have played him twenty-one up at table tennis.

Home was very pleasant after that experience, despite the fact that we could hardly get in at the door for bills, and that, in our excitement when going away, we left a perishing onion on the kitchen table.

JAMES WATSON.

Manor Park.

St. Dunstaner's Courage in Fire

BY great courage and resourcefulness, Capt. Lindsay Caudle, a St. Dunstan's officer and masseur, saved the lives of his wife, a maid, himself, and a dog, when fire broke out at his home at Southsea on January 12th.

Capt. Caudle discovered the fire through the whining of his dog. On investigation, he found the ground floor well alight and all chance of escape by the stairway cut off. Coolly he made a rope of several sheets and secured the escape of his wife and maid, who slid down the rope to the front garden. Then he threw the dog to safety, and then came down the "rope" himself. He clambered over the window sill only just in time. The flames had caught the sheets, and the improvised rope broke asunder just before he touched the ground. Luckily, his fall did not cause any injury. Mrs. Caudle suffered a cut hand.

The fire brigade was unable to save much of the house, but prevented the spread of the flames to adjoining property.

To Manchester St. Dunstaners

Mr. P. W. Nolan, of 31 Moat Hill Avenue, Peel Green, Eccles, Manchester, would be most grateful if any St. Dunstaner in that city, with a knowledge of the deaf-blind manual, would make friends and talk with him.

A. T. Brooks, of Bournemouth, asks us to mention this.

Sports Club Notes

There will be a Dance at Headquarters, on April 2nd, at 7.30 p.m. Would members who will be attending please let Miss Morris know, as soon as possible, to enable the necessary A.R.P. arrangements to be made.

Young St. Dunstaners

Eunice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Parkinson, of Bognor, was married on November 4th, to Mr. Frank Ide.

★ ★ ★

Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Tanner, of St. Ives, Cornwall, has passed his matriculation.

★ ★ ★

Ronald, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distington, was married to Miss Ivy Gardiner, at Croydon, on November 11th.

★ ★ ★

Charles, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Glasspool, of Brixton Hill, was married on December 19th to Miss Doris Langham.

The wedding took place at the Registry Office, owing to the bridegroom's very short leave.

★ ★ ★

Angela, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Lynch, has been awarded her third certificate for piano, at the Associated Board of Music, Royal Academy.

(Other news unavoidably held over.)

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

HART.—To J. B. Hart, of Cardiff, whose wife passed away on February 9th, after a long illness.

HAYES.—To E. Hayes, of Wrexham, whose sister, with whom he lived, has died.

HOLLAND.—To A. J. Holland, of Rushden, whose wife passed away on January 28th, after a very short illness.

RUSHEN.—To W. Rushen, of Witham, whose mother, with whom he lived, has passed away.

SUMNER.—To Mr. and Mrs. P. Sumner, of Worcester, whose daughter, Mary Doreen, died on February 12th at the age of seventeen.

WRIGHT.—To Mr. and Mrs. W. Wright, of Stalybridge, whose seventeen-year-old son, William, died on January 14th, in Davyhulme Military Hospital.

Mr. E. Hope Atkinson

ST. Dunstan's men, and members of St. Dunstan's staff, will hear with the deepest regret of the death of Mr. E. Hope Atkinson. Mr. Atkinson passed away on February 9th, after a brief illness. He was at Raglan Street up to a fortnight before his death, and it is a sad fact that he was on the point of retiring from active work, for he was 64.

Mr. Atkinson was the first instructor in joinery to the men of St. Dunstan's. Formerly in business in Sheffield as a joiner and cabinet maker, he was deprived of his own sight as the result of an accident, but with indomitable courage, he determined that his handicap should make no difference. He returned, successfully, to his own trade, and, furthermore, he strongly advocated the teaching of joinery to other blind men. He encountered strong opposition. In the days of 1915 it was thought impossible that a man without sight should ever overcome the use of sharp tools. Mr. Atkinson thought otherwise, and when Sir Arthur Pearson was gathering around him men who had lost their sight in the war, his personal experience and knowledge were there for the use of St. Dunstan's.

Sir Arthur appointed Mr. Atkinson instructor in joinery to the men of St. Dunstan's, and in his twenty-five years with us nearly two hundred men have passed through his hands. Their skill to-day is a wonderful tribute to the man who taught them their craft.

Mr. Atkinson was an outstanding personality. His wonderfully cheerful disposition, his understanding and sympathy, brought him many friends. In a letter to Mrs. Atkinson, Sir Ian Fraser spoke for all when he wrote:

"We know how seriously ill your husband was, and the only consolation we can feel for you is that he led such a wonderful life of usefulness, which was so fully appreciated, and that he died in harness, without a prolonged illness. Your husband's own example of courage and adaptability, and determination to overcome difficulties, together with his charming way and quick, sympathetic understanding, have made a mark upon St. Dunstan's generally, which has been of benefit to the whole organisation—not only to the joiners and carpenters, who owe him so much."

(Continued on page 8)

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE JOSEPH BILLINGTON
(*Royal Defence Corps*)

WE have heard with deep regret of the death of J. Billington, of Lower Sydenham.

Billington lost his sight as the result of service in the Great War, and immediately afterwards came to St. Dunstan's for training in basket work, and he carried on with this craft until a few days before his death. His last illness was very sudden. He was removed to hospital, but treatment was of no avail, and he passed away on the last day of 1939.

The funeral took place a few days later; among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Billington and her little family.

PRIVATE ALFRED DAY
(*4th Middlesex Regiment*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of A. Day, of Exeter.

Day came to St. Dunstan's in 1916, his sight having failed as a result of his war service, and he was trained in mat-making, at which he worked until a few years ago. His health lately had not been good, but nevertheless his death, which occurred suddenly on the 13th November, was a great shock to his wife and friends.

The funeral took place very quietly a few days later, and was attended only by members of the family. A wreath from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the wreaths.

Our very sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Day in her great loss.

PRIVATE DANIEL HUNT
(*17th Lancers*)

WE record with deep regret the sudden death of D. Hunt, of Romford.

Hunt, who, before 1914, was a regular soldier, lost his sight while serving with the 17th Lancers. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1923, when he was trained as a joiner, and he continued at this occupation until shortly before his death. Many people will, of course, also remember him as a cornet player in St. Dunstan's Band.

He leaves three small children, who are being cared for by their aunt in South Shields.

LANCE-CORPORAL JOHN O'NEILL
(*Labour Corps*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of J. O'Neill, of Co. Tipperary.

O'Neill was discharged from the Army in December, 1918, but he did not come to St. Dunstan's until April, 1926. On account of his age and health, he was unable to undertake any serious training, but he interested himself in a little greengrocery business, and also in his wool rugs.

He was taken ill very suddenly on January 5th, and he passed away six days later.

O'Neill was very popular in his district, and a great number of friends and neighbours attended the funeral, which took place on January 13th, at Ballymackeogh Cemetery. A wreath from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers.

He leaves two daughters and three sons, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

PRIVATE JOHN HENRY TWIGG
(*1st Borderers*)

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of "Harry" Twigg, of Little Broughton.

Twigg saw service in the South African War, and upon the outbreak of war in 1914 again offered his services. When he was discharged from the Army in April, 1917, as a result of wounds received on the Somme in 1916, he had already been admitted to St. Dunstan's. He was trained as a mat-maker and poultry-farmer, and took the keenest interest in his work. Twigg was a great favourite in the district, and took a great interest in the life of his parish. Until three years ago he was a member of Broughton Parish Council.

His death occurred very suddenly on January 14th. He was sitting before the fire, chatting with his wife and a friend, when he collapsed and died.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was among the many flowers.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Twigg and her three children.

PRIVATE WILLIAM SCOTT PEAREY
(*10th Northumberland Fusiliers*)

WITH deepest regret we record the death of W. Scott Pearey, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, following an operation necessitated by a recurrence of war wounds.

Wounded at Martinpuich, in September, 1916, Scott Pearey came to St. Dunstan's some nine months later, there to take up the profession to which he was to bring such distinction. Before taking up private practice in Newcastle, he held various hospital appointments, and at the time of his death he was on the honorary staff of Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary, a position he had held since 1921. In 1934 he was elected a member of the Council of the

Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics, and he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Northumberland and Durham Branch of the Society. He was a founder member of the Society of Physiotherapists, and had been a member of St. Dunstan's Massage Advisory Committee since its inception in 1923.

His many other activities included work on behalf of ex-Servicemen—he was a vice-president of the Newcastle (Central) Branch of the British Legion—and he was a member of Newcastle Rotary Club.

Scott Pearey, who was forty-nine, was the eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pearey. His father was for a great number of years secretary of the Tynemouth Blind Welfare Society and Northern Counties Library. His mother died only a few weeks ago.

The funeral took place at St. Andrew's Cemetery and was preceded by a service at Jesmond Presbyterian Church, of which he was a member. Mr. Mace was present, and among the many wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

From the words of the address, we may well quote these. "Few men can have given more to the service of their fellow men. Like so many others trained by St. Dunstan's, he refused to be a burden to society or to allow anyone to pity him. Living as we do to-day among broken hopes, and in a time of severe testing for everything good and true, we may be compelled to revise our standards as to what true accomplishment is. Perhaps the values are not to be found in what we regard as the goal, but are to be found on the way to its accomplishment. It was certainly so with our good friend. The values his daily struggle achieved are imperishable. So the life and effort of William Scott Pearey cannot be lost, but remains imperishable. . . . We shall always honour his memory for we shall rarely meet a braver soul."

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Pearey and her two children.

(Continued from page 6)

The funeral took place at St. Pancras Cemetery, and among those who attended were: Lady Fraser, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Doughty, Mr. Bartlett, and three St. Dunstaners: C. H. Cook, of Walthamstow; J. R. Ridley, of Finchley; and T. W. Stratful, of Barnet.

Miss Frances Hughes

St. Dunstaners who were at the old House, in 1916 and 1917, will remember with deep affection its first Matron, Miss Frances Hughes, or "Sister Pat," as we all knew her.

It is with great regret that we have heard of her sudden death.

"Sister Pat" came to St. Dunstan's in the Spring of 1916, and remained as Matron until February, 1918. Many will recall the pleasure of meeting her again at the last Armistice Dance, held at the Portman Rooms.

A wreath was sent from St. Dunstan's, which bore the inscription, "In affectionate remembrance of a well-loved Matron of St. Dunstan's, 1916-1918."

Mr. A. Marcus

THIS name will bring to the minds of many St. Dunstaners recollections covering nearly twenty-one years.

Coming to St. Dunstan's shortly after he completed his own war service, Mr. Marcus not only adapted himself readily to the teaching of his craft to blind men, but he took an enthusiastic interest in sport and

everything which affected their lives. After acting as Instructor in the workshops for a time, he was appointed Technical Visitor, and carried out his duties chiefly in London, the West and South-West of England, and South Wales.

His many friends will regret to hear that he was taken suddenly ill with double pneumonia and passed away on the 17th January.

He was a skilled craftsman and a rapid worker, and devoted himself not only to imparting his knowledge to the men he visited, but also by giving them a very good lift up with their work whenever he called. His visits were valued by the family as well as by the man in the workshop, and there are many young people who have known him from childhood who will share their parents' grief at his passing.

Mr. H. Hay

ST. Dunstaners will hear with the deepest regret of the death of another old friend, Mr. H. Hay, who passed suddenly away on January 15th.

Although it is some years since Mr. Hay retired from his post as mat instructor to the men of St. Dunstan's, he has never lost touch. He was present at most Northern reunions, and it was his greatest pleasure to renew his old friendships whenever the opportunity presented itself. Until the time of his death he kept up a regular correspondence with many St. Dunstaners.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 261—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

MARCH, 1940

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

IN the January REVIEW I asked for opinions as to whether we should or should not hold Reunions all over the country during the war. St. Dunstaners' letters on this subject leave no doubt that the view that Reunions should be postponed until after the war, or at any rate for the time being, prevails. There are certainly great difficulties, owing to A.R.P., the black-out, and travelling restrictions, and we have accordingly decided not to hold them this year. Some suggest that we should spend the money which St. Dunstan's would save, in particular directions. I cannot, at the moment, say that we will devote this particular money to any particular object. We shall most certainly need it to help keep the general services of St. Dunstan's going, for war difficulties of one kind and another, for St. Dunstan's generally, and amongst St. Dunstan's men and their families, are already making an additional tax upon us. The £1 gift which we sent out at Christmas was a new charge, and is an indication that we have in mind the special needs of our men on special occasions.

Macquisten, M.P.,—Friend of St. Dunstan's

The other day, Mr. F. A. Macquisten, K.C., M.P. for Argyll, died. His many friends in the House of Commons, and out of it, will miss him. He was an M.P. always willing to take up a good cause, particularly for the small man. I had the honour of his friendship, and when I had only been in the House of Commons for a few months, it was he whom I consulted about my first Parliamentary Bill. One evening, sitting in the Smoke Room, in 1926, I told him that I wanted to get a free wireless licence for every blind person, and asked him, as an old hand, how to go about it. He and I planned a campaign, and then and there wrote down the first draft of the Bill which I subsequently introduced to the House and got passed as the Wireless Telegraphy (Blind Persons Facilities) Act. This Act gave every blind person in this country a free wireless licence, and the example was followed in the Parliaments of all the Dominions.

Talking Book Policy

I have sometimes been asked to explain why St. Dunstaners have to pay for Talking Book machines, when so many other services are free. I think it may interest readers to have an outline of our policy in this matter. First of all, it must not be assumed that every new service introduced by St. Dunstan's can be free. When account is taken of children's allowances, holiday allowances, the cost of the Brighton Home with free travelling to and fro, grants in times of need or difficulty, wireless sets, braille watches, typewriters, maintaining our trades, helping our professional men, and so on, it will be understood that very great sums of money are required for St. Dunstan's. Although we have always found the money so far, the supply is not inexhaustible, and we have to consider the future.

I have always had at the back of my mind the belief that the time would come when the sacrifices of the Great War became a matter of history rather than memory to most of our fellow-countrymen, and that, when that time came, it might be difficult to raise funds for St. Dunstan's. It may surprise readers to know that, as far ahead as 1967, there will still be over five hundred blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen of the Great War living, and by that time the Great War itself will be a distant memory of fifty years ago. I have always felt also that one of the most comforting things we could do for a St. Dunstaner was to guarantee to him as certainly as possible that any service we began, or form of help we started, to which he would become accustomed, would continue to be available for the rest of the lifetime of the Great War generation. It would not make for happiness to start new expenditure on a scale which we could not be sure of maintaining. I always have these thoughts in mind, and when the Talking Book project came up to be considered, I turned it over in the light of these considerations. If Talking Books had been free for all, perhaps a thousand, or perhaps nearly two thousand men would have wanted them. This alone would have cost a lot of money, and many who had a free Talking Book might not have used it and appreciated it, and this would have been wasteful. Not only this, but so large a number of readers would have required three times as many books. Now it must be remembered that while the St. Dunstaner pays for his Talking Book machine he does not pay for the records, although they are very costly indeed. The Library service is entirely free. Fortunately, I was able to secure a splendid gift from Lord Nuffield to help us pay for the records, but even this generous gift does not cover the whole cost. So we decided that the Library should be free, but that the St. Dunstaner should pay for his Talking Book, although even here we met the position a little because we take £1 off the cost of each Talking Book to make it less expensive to the buyer.

I was able to persuade the Postmaster-General at the time to put a special clause in an Act of Parliament to enable the books to go through the mails at the very reduced rate of three-halfpence or twopence a book. By ordinary parcel post I think it would have been as much as one shilling.

The result of this policy is that the Talking Book has been well-established. Over five hundred St. Dunstaners are enjoying it. There is no doubt that it is a really very wonderful addition to the resources of the blind.

There are a few cases where we present the Talking Book machines free, owing to some special gift or for a special reason. For example, a year or two ago Queen Mary sent me a cheque, asking me to use it for the purchase of a Talking Book machine for a specially disabled St. Dunstaner, and a lady in the North of England paid for three machines for three special cases in a similar manner. St. Dunstan's itself also makes gifts of this kind in rare and special circumstances. The only cases in which we do this are where the man is bedridden, or very specially disabled, or has no other occupation, a case where the Talking Book is the one thing that will give him very special comfort and pleasure.

I am glad to say that, in spite of the war, we are continuing to produce and put into the Library two new books a month.

A True Fishing Story

Sir Walter Womersley, the Minister of Pensions, whose opening of the Operating Theatre Wing of our building at Brighton is reported elsewhere, is an old political friend of mine. He was a Whip in the House of Commons for many years when I was a Member, and he and I have often talked on public platforms together. He is one of the best of our public platform speakers, and has an immense fund of racy stories suitable for all occasions. He has a special sympathy for St. Dunstan's because he only has one good eye, and at one time he couldn't see very much out of that one. Indeed, I believe he was very nearly blind for some weeks. He is an old soldier himself, and we are fortunate to have a man of such wide experience and understanding as Minister of Pensions. He is M.P. for Grimsby, and consequently a great many of his constituents are the splendidly gallant fellows who man the trawlers for mine-sweeping or fishing. Many of them have been shot up by the German air raiders in the last few weeks in the cowardly and barbarous attacks they have been making on unarmed vessels. Sir Walter was at my house the other evening, and told a host of stories, one of which I will tell you. Two or three weeks ago the crews of two

trawlers said that they would not go to sea until they had interviewed an important person. This caused perturbation at the Ports. Had the English sailors and fishermen lost their nerve? When the important person interviewed the crews to ascertain what the trouble was, they said, "All we want is a rifle to have a crack at them." The picture of these gallant men in their little craft putting bravely out to sea to meet a modern aeroplane armed with bombs and four machine guns or more, with nothing but a rifle to have a crack at them, made me feel very proud of our seafaring men. A week later the Admiralty armed all these vessels with a machine gun.

IAN FRASER.

News of St. Dunstaners

Dan Barker, of Hamilton, Ontario, has sent us a gift of two pairs of socks, which have been knitted by an old lady of eighty years of age. Dan asks that they may be given to the first blinded soldier to come to St. Dunstan's during the present war.

★ ★ ★

A. Holmes, of Burley-in-Wharfedale, is a proud grandfather. His daughter has presented him with a grandson, Anthony Stevenson.

★ ★ ★

The latest addition to the ranks (or should it be "rinks"?) of St. Dunstan's skaters is R. A. Barbour, of Brighton.

★ ★ ★

F. Pullen, of Old Woking, is one of our best darts players, and the *Daily Mirror* gave him a good show the other day. They were wrong in his age, though; they gave it as more than sixty; actually he is only 53. Pullen is a member of the "Crown and Anchor" Dart Club, Old Woking. The other night the Club was playing Epsom Town and the issue depended on him. He wanted the double one. His second dart was right in the middle, and the match was won.

★ ★ ★

Last month we asked St. Dunstaners to let us know what they were doing to help to win the war.

W. H. Harding, of Finsbury Park, has made several scarves on his old frame, and a rug, which was raffled in his firm. As a result, £10 13s. 6d. went to their Comforts Fund.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. J. Baxter, of Clapham Junction, have sung for the troops many times, but on January 30th they produced their own concert party, which appeared as "Baxter's Brighter Black-out." They hope to do more of this work in the future, for, as they say, "rehearsing is time well spent if the show gives pleasure to the lads."

From the "New Beacon"

"TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP, THE BOYS ARE MARCHING.—At a certain R.A.F. Depot the boys are marching to the tune of a song which has been written for them by two well-known local musical artistes—Mr. Rex Furness, who is blind, and Mrs. Jessie Allen, his accompanist. A day or two before a concert at which he was to entertain the troops, Mr. Furness 'sat down and knocked out the words and a simple tune,' and then he and Mrs. Allen harmonised it. As soon as the song got going the floor resounded to the stamp, stamp, stamp of airmen's feet, and the Depot has now a marching song of its own."

Mr. Rex Furness is a St. Dunstan's officer.

A Lift on the Way

Say folk, just listen, if you've got the time.
To my little story—I've put it in rhyme.

*Down at St. Dunstan's we're doing our best,
Undertaking a job which is well worth the test.
Needs for the boys who are braving the storm,
Socks, scarves, and woollies, to keep themselves warm.*

*The boys who are fighting for a cause just and fair,
Army and Navy, and the boys in the Air.
Never say die is our motto, that's true,
St. Dunstan's men's boys will pull us all through.*

*Comforts they want, so comforts we'll give,
Out with your coppers, live and let live.
Money, of course, is the weapon we need,
Forward your pennies, then we will succeed.
On land, in the air, and likewise on sea,
Remember they're fighting for you and for me.
To comfort and cheer them, what're may prevail,
St. Dunstan's Old Boys were ne'er known to fail.
Failure won't come if we all do our bit,
Unless, as it were, we're very hard hit.
Now is the time, strike the iron whilst it's hot,
Delay may cause trouble (we don't want a lot).*

J. McDONALD.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ALEXANDER, L/Cpl. E. J., Black Watch.
 ATTRELL, Sapper W., Royal Engineers.
 BAKER, A/C2, Royal Air Force.
 BAULCH, J. E. (*nee* CONDON), Section Leader
 Quartermaster, A.T.S.
 BEATTIE, A/C2 R. S., Royal Air Force.
 BLACKETT, Air Fitter Apprentice, R.N. Fleet Air
 Arm.
 BOARDMAN, Driver W. P., L. of C. Signals.
 BOON, Driver F., R.A.S.C.
 CHADWICK, O/S E. L., H.M.S. *Gurkha*.
 CHAPMAN, Private H., 5th Northamptonshire Regt.
 CHAFFIN, Gunner R. A., Royal Artillery.
 CLARE, Sapper D. G., Royal Engineers.
 CLEARY, Private T., Border Regiment.
 CLEARY, Private S., I.T.C.
 COLBECK, Private J., Royal Air Force.
 COLLINGS, Gunner H., R.A. (Signal Training).
 CONDON, Cpl. T. D., Royal Air Force.
 DEWIS, Driver K., R.A.S.C.
 DICKINSON, O/S C., H.M.S. *Skate*.
 DONEGAN, Driver E., R.H.A.
 DOWD, Private J., K.O.R.R.
 DUFFY, Trooper T., Royal Tank Regt.
 DURKIN, F. T., A.A., Royal Air Force.
 FARMERY, Signalman R., Royal Signals.
 FURNISS, Driver W., R.A.S.C.
 GAME, Private E., Queen's Royal Regt.
 GILHOOLEY, G., Royal Air Force.
 GRAHAM, Sapper B. N., R.E.
 GRIBBEN, Gunner E., Royal Artillery.
 GRIBBEN, Corporal A., Infantry.
 HADFIELD, Driver C., No. 1 Section M.T.
 HOTSON, Private T., 2nd East Yorks. Regt.
 HULME, Leading Aircraftman, Royal Air Force.
 HURRELL, A/C1 R., Royal Air Force.
 IRVINE, G., Signal Corps.
 ISAAC, Leading Aircraftman, Royal Air Force.
 JAKES, Trooper R., 1st King's Dragoon Guards.
 JAMES, L/Cpl. F., Royal Sussex Regt.
 JARMAN, A/B. T., H.M.S. *Revenge*.
 JARMAN, Bugler A., D.B.R.E.
 JORDAN, Private S., Infantry Brigade.
 KIRBY, Signalman I. T., 139th Field Regt.
 KNIGHT, Sapper C., Royal Engineers.
 LAKER, Gunner L. J., 58th Med. Regt., R.A.
 LAWLOR, Cpl. M. P., 2nd Royal Ulster Rifles.
 LAWLOR, A/B. W., H.M.S. *Kelly*.
 LEEMAN, N., S.S. *Orintes*.
 LEONARD, L/Cpl., Queen's Westminsters.
 LEVER, L/Cpl. C.
 LILLEY, Private G., R.A.S.C.
 M'ALONAN, R., Cavalry Barracks.
 McDONALD, Private J., 52 H.T. Regt., R.A.C.
 MARSHALL, Steward C., H.M.S. *Ranpara*.
 MAKING, A/B. G., H.M.S. *Grangepark*.
 MILEHAM, Gunner H., Royal Air Force.
 MILEHAM, Gunner J., Royal Air Force.
 MOSS, J. H., Worcester Regt.
 MOSS, Private J. A., Worcester Regt.
 NASH, Gunner P. J., Field Regt.
 O'BRIEN, Private H., 2nd/4th Hampshire Regt.
 OLDFIELD, L/Cpl. A., Royal Engineers.
 O'KELLY, Gunner, Royal Artillery.

[A further list will appear next month].

Now read the poem on page 3.

Young St. Dunstaners

With deep regret we have heard of the death of the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Gaffney, while serving on H.M.S. *Daring*.

★ ★ ★

News has also been received that Thomas Burnett, of the D.C.L.I., is reported missing, believed to be a prisoner.

★ ★ ★

Tom Hotson is serving in the same regiment as his father, the 2nd East Yorks.

★ ★ ★

C. T. Condon's son has been promoted to Instructor.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distington's, youngest son married Miss Annie Carr on St. Valentine's Day. He is now in France.

★ ★ ★

Alice Cockburn, daughter of our late St. Dunstan, T. Cockburn, of Newcastle, was married on October 28th to Edward Murray Jackson.

★ ★ ★

The daughter of F. Stew, of Tewkesbury, has married a pilot officer in the Royal Air Force.

★ ★ ★

Joan and George, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Polley, of Southall, have both won scholarships, which entitle them to attend the Central School.

★ ★ ★

Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Hill, of Devizes, was married on January 6th to Mr. James W. Romain. Their other daughter, Elizabeth, has won a scholarship, and is now a pupil at Devizes Secondary School.

★ ★ ★

The eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Roberts, of Westcliff-on-Sea, was married on December 23rd to Mr. R. S. Welsford.

★ ★ ★

Betty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sayers, of Birchington, was married on December 23rd to Stanley Kitchener Foord.

★ ★ ★

Colin, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Macdonald, of Stockport, has passed the O.T.C. examination for Certificate A.

★ ★ ★

Kenneth Ashwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Ashwell, of Cheadle Hulme, was married on January 22nd to Miss G. R. Jeffreys.

Opening of Operating Theatre Wing at Brighton Hospital

ON Friday, March 8th, Sir Walter Womersley, J.P., M.P., Minister of Pensions, formally opened the new Operating Theatre Wing at the Brighton Hospital, which has been built in view of St. Dunstan's additional responsibilities in the present war. The wing, which has been built over the existing garages, has been made possible by a generous gift of Lord Nuffield, totalling £7,000.

Lady (Arthur) Pearson, our President, and Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, met the Minister at the door of the Home, and conducted him to the new Wing. Among the distinguished visitors present were Mr. Edwin Fisher, Sir Neville Pearson, Col. Eric Ball and Miss Hamar Greenwood (Members of St. Dunstan's Executive Council), Sir Arnold Lawson, Chairman, St. Dunstan's Ophthalmic Advisory Board, the Mayoress of Brighton, the Mayor and Mayoress of Eastbourne, the Mayor of Hastings, representatives of the Departments of Pensions and Health, of the Medical Services, Newington House, the three Fighting Services of this country and of Canada, New Zealand, and Australia, Mr. R. B. Hughes Buller, Vice-Chairman of the National Institute for the Blind, and Commandant Coutelat, Commandant Monbrun, and Dr. Eckenstein, of the French Army Medical Corps, who came especially from France for the ceremony.

In a speech in the Lounge after the ceremony, Sir Walter Womersley said that for two reasons he thought that he was the right person to invite to open the Wing. He himself had a blind eye and, like Lord Nelson, often put the telescope to that eye when dealing with pensions cases. The second reason was that his Ministry and St. Dunstan's had always worked in close co-operation in the interests of those who lost their sight in the last war.

"St. Dunstan's, which owes its inspiration to one man's courage and imagination—the late Sir Arthur Pearson—was founded in 1915, two years before the birth of my own Department, so that St. Dunstan's is the senior, but we boast at the Ministry that we are really the godfather of St. Dunstan's. When the question of the care of casualties of the present war arose, I said, 'Go to St. Dunstan's,' for I knew that St. Dunstan's, with its experience and knowledge, was the best authority to deal with such a problem."

In a tribute to Sir Ian Fraser, Sir Walter said: "I have a great regard for Sir Ian quite apart from St. Dunstan's. We were in Parliament together and he was always on the side of the ex-serviceman. He and I caused a good deal of trouble to the Government in those days."

The care of the blinded men of the last war, said Sir Walter, was St. Dunstan's first charge. Now St. Dunstan's was ready to shoulder the responsibilities brought about by a new war.

Sir Arthur Pearson's spirit was with us to-day. It lives on, making St. Dunstan's the greatest organisation for the blind in the world.

Sir Ian Fraser, before thanking the Minister, introduced Col. R. M. Luton, M.C., R.C.A.M.C., who

represented the Hon. Vincent Massey, Commissioner for Canada. Col. Luton read a message from Mr. Massey, expressing the appreciation of St. Dunstan's offer to care for the Canadian blinded soldiers in the present war—an offer which had been accepted. Sir Ian said that he had also received a letter that morning from the South African Commissioner, on behalf of his Dominion's Government, accepting a similar offer to look after all South African soldiers who may be blinded in this war. Conferences with Australia and New Zealand on the same matter were also proceeding.

Sir Ian said there were four conditions necessary for St. Dunstan's to carry on. (1) The Building. We already had that. (2) A team of surgeons, sisters, nurses, and V.A.D.s, and a staff of people accustomed to working with blind persons. We had those too. (3) Money to look after the men of the last war, whose interests would come first, and money for our new responsibilities. For this, we relied upon the generosity of the British public. Lastly, the spirit, which he knew would be shown by present St. Dunstaners, to help and guide the new men who might so soon be brought to us.

In conclusion, Sir Ian said that it would give some idea of St. Dunstan's preparedness when he told his audience that fifteen months before war broke out, plans were in hand for the conversion of the Home into a Hospital, and for this new Operating Theatre Wing. The week after war was declared, work began.

The singing of the "Marseillaise" and "God Save the King" followed Sir Ian's speech, and the visitors then began a general tour of the Hospital.

Brighton Gossip

THE opening of the new Theatre Wing provided an excellent opportunity of meeting old friends.

Mr. Fobbs, for one, seemed to be here, there, and everywhere. As Bursar at the Hospital, he is responsible for the smooth running of the business and accounts side—not an easy task in these days of ration books, permits, and so on. A little time ago, Mr. Fobbs took up the duties of Bursar at the Hospital, and Mr. Dickie, an experienced chartered accountant, was appointed Chief Accountant.

Mr. Banks was there too, with Mr. Swain and Mr. Ferguson. Mr. Swain, of course, is now in charge of the Northern Area, Welfare Department. His place as Appeals Organiser was taken by Mr. Ernest Stanford, C.B.E., who, however, works from London and was not able to be present at the opening.

Mr. Mace acted as Transport Officer, for a very large party had come down from London for the ceremony.

At the reception by Lady (Arthur) Pearson afterwards, the guests were announced by Head Orderly W. Hawketts, who, it was noticed, was wearing his war medals, including the Croix de Guerre—a tribute to the presence of our French visitors.

Head Orderly T. Watson, now at Portland Place, who was helping Mr. Mace, is also entitled to wear the ribbon of the Croix de Guerre, as well as the D.C.M. with bar.

Canine Topics

Distemper

THIS is one of the most mysterious, and, at the same time, the most fatal diseases affecting the canine race to-day. Human beings contract a cold, the nasal and respiratory organs are affected, feverish symptoms ensue, etc. The common cold and its attendant complications baffle medical science to-day, just as distemper does with veterinary science. Distemper, at the onset, very much resembles the human cold, but with this marked difference, you never know what the disease is going to leave behind. Then, again, distemper does not attack all dogs with the same malignant vigour, a fact which a breeder knows to his sorrow, for the one thing he or she dreads is a mild attack of it in one dog, which apparently recovers after a very short time, without any ill effects.

The problem which attends every case of distemper is, what is it going to leave behind?

It will be realised how complex and disconcerting this dread disease is. What a breeder hopes for when he is attacked is that the attack will not be of the latent type, but straightforward type, and in the latter case a very sick dog, apparently without a chance, will recover and be normal afterwards, but not so with a latent attack. It is in these cases that scientific trouble is encountered. One authority states that there are four kinds of the disease. In my canine experience of over 45 years I cannot recall any two cases that were exactly alike in all points.

In very early days, before the time of many of our present breeds, and also before the inauguration of canine societies, distemper was called rabies, and was so called until the beginning of the last century. It is incredible, but true, that veterinary science did not know a great deal about it until *after* 1923! About that time the Medical Research Council began an investigation into the disease, aided by a fund for that special purpose. It was badly needed, as countless dogs had met untimely deaths through ignorance.

It must be understood that "Vets" in those days, before the formation of the Kennel Club, contented themselves with their work in connection with horses and

cattle, of which there were more than there are to-day. Canine ailments were left to those people who owned or looked after sporting dogs, and packs of hounds, or the ordinary working-man. These were the men who, in the science of that period, did much by their observations and crude medical knowledge, and were known, each in his own particular locality or town, as "knowing something about" dogs. Names are legion. Forty years ago, when a case of distemper arose, Stockholm Tar was the chief antidote. This, together with good nursing, similar to that given to a child with measles, very often pulled the unfortunate tyke through a very bad time.

(to be continued)

H.M.

Derby Sweepstake, 1940

A SUBSTITUTE Derby is being run at Newbury, on Wednesday, June 12th, and accordingly we have pleasure in announcing once again St. Dunstan's own Derby Sweepstake.

The rules are given below.

One word of warning. It is absolutely essential that every application for tickets must bear the sender's *full* name and address, otherwise the Editor cannot be held responsible for tickets going astray.

The sweepstake is confined strictly to St. Dunstaners, and tickets will on no account be issued to anyone else.

RULES

1. The price of tickets is 2s. 6d. each.
2. The total amount subscribed will, with the exception of the actual cost of printing and postage involved, be distributed as follows:—

Fifty per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

Twenty per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

Ten per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

Twenty per cent. to be equally divided among all those who hold tickets drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

3. Application for tickets can be made at once and will be received up to the first post on **Monday, June 3rd**. Every application must bear the name and address of the sender, and envelopes, which must be plainly marked "Derby Competition," must be sent to the REVIEW, St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Regent's Park, and not to any other department. Postal orders must be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed.

Tickets will be despatched in rotation, and must be produced before payment of prize money is made.

Competition Corner

The correct solution to last month's little problem was twenty girls.

The first correct entry opened on March 6th was sent in by H. Hotson, of Brough, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent.

This Month's Competition

In writing a cheque a man made a mistake and wrote the shillings for pounds and pounds for shillings. He found he had exactly doubled the amount he intended to write. What should he have written?

Entries (with envelopes marked "Competition Corner," to be sent to the Editor at London Headquarters. Closing date, April 6th.

National Egg-Laying Test

Positions of No. 1 Birds

1st Month

Position	Competitor	Test Score	Bird No.
1st	T. M. Fisher	21	3397
1st	David McLaren	21	3343
2nd	P. Holmes	20	3331
2nd	R. E. Hill	20	3379
3rd	W. A. Smith	19	3355

2nd Month

1st	David McLaren	43	3343
2nd	P. Holmes	40	3331
3rd	T. M. Fisher	39	3397

3rd Month

1st	David McLaren	61	3343
1st	P. Holmes	61	3331
2nd	T. M. Fisher	58	3397
3rd	G. Jackson	39	3415

4th Month

1st	P. Holmes	77	3331
2nd	T. M. Fisher	74	3397
3rd	David McLaren	62	3343

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

BARNES.—To W. Barnes, of Bradford, whose wife died on February 24th.

GAFFNEY.—To Mr. and Mrs. A. Gaffney, of Salford, in the loss of their son on Active Service.

THOMPSON.—To E. J. Thompson, of Kenton, whose wife died on February 17th, after a brief illness.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. M. Printie, of Edinburgh, who celebrate their silver wedding on March 18th.

Sports Club Notes

3-Mile Walk

The first walk of the season was held from London Headquarters on Saturday, February 24th, in ideal weather. The competitors were started by Sir Arnold Lawson, Chairman of the Ophthalmic Advisory Committee of St. Dunstan's.

The results are given below. After the race, Miss M. Hamar Greenwood, with a smile and a word for winners and losers, presented the prizes.

Competitor	RESULT				Position
	Actual Time	H'cap Time	H'cap Allow. in H'cap		
A. Brown ...	28.17	28.17	—	6	Fastest
W. T. Scott ...	30.57	26.42	4.15	4	Time
J. Triggs ...	31.9	24.39	6.30	1	
J. Jerome ...	31.10	28.55	2.15	8	
J. Coupland ...	32.2	28.47	3.15	7	} "A" Section
E. Varley ...	32.14	27.59	4.15	5	
T. Rouse ...	33.32	29.2	4.30	9	
R. H. Cook ...	34.7	25.37	8.30	2	
G. Jolly ...	37.56	26.41	11.15	3	
T. ap Rhys ...	30.5	29.5	1.0	3	Fastest
H. Kerr ...	33.58	28.58	5.0	2	Time
C. Peach ...	37.2	28.32	8.30	1	"B" Section

6-Mile Walk

April 20th, at 2.15 p.m., has now been fixed for the 6-mile walk, instead of April 13th, as previously announced. The police have another engagement on the latter date.

Brighton

The next meeting of the Brighton Club will be on March 28th, at 4 p.m.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

On February 3rd the Post Office Bridge Club visited Headquarters and played our Club three matches, each with teams of four. The Post Office won all three matches, but we were exceptionally pleased with our No. 2 team, who lost by the small margin of 400.

On Saturday, February 24th, we played a team of eight, which included Mr. Waller, the Civil Service Secretary, and Mr. Field, of the Post Office. We played twenty hands, the visitors winning by 1,200 points.

The social side of Bridge is grand, and, combined with this, our match play is improving rapidly. H.G.

Advertisement

WANTED.—To hire, or purchase, if reasonable, for cash.—Lady front TANDEM CYCLE. Must be ready for the road.—W. Collins, 51 Abbey Road, Sompting, Sussex.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE ERNEST BROOKS
(5th Northumberland Fusiliers)

WE record with deep regret the death of E. Brooks, of Manchester.

Brooks saw service in France and his sight was damaged as the result of an accident, but he did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1932. He was trained as a mat-maker, but his health only permitted him to concentrate on wool rugs in recent years. In January of this year he contracted pneumonia, and his death took place on February 6th, after a very short illness.

Brooks was one of our keenest sportsmen and never missed an opportunity of attending the meetings of the Manchester Sports Club.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the flowers.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Mrs. Brooks and her seven children.

PRIVATE BENJAMIN JOHN DAY
(58th Canadian Infantry)

WITH deep regret we announce the death of B. J. Day, of Tewkesbury.

Day lost his sight from the effects of service in the Great War. He came to St. Dunstan's some time later, and was trained as a basket maker, at which occupation he worked until about two years ago, when his health began to deteriorate. Since then he had gradually grown worse, but we were pleasantly surprised to find him able to make the journey to Brighton at the beginning of December. During the first month of this year, however, it became obvious that he was growing worse, and he passed away at the Home on January 28th.

The funeral took place at Tewkesbury, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We send our sincere sympathy to his three sons.

GUNNER ALTON ASHTON GREEN
(Royal Garrison Artillery)

WE record with deep regret the death of A. A. Green, of Southampton.

Green lost his sight as a result of being gassed in the Great War. He came to St. Dunstan's in 1930 and was trained in mat-making, at which occupation he worked until 1937, when he felt the necessity of giving himself a little more leisure. He came to our Brighton Home at the beginning of January this year for a convalescent holiday, but while there was taken ill with bronchial pneumonia and passed away on the 29th of the month.

The funeral took place at Southampton, and was attended by members of the family and friends. A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Green's son and daughters.

PRIVATE JAMES MCCARTHY
(Labour Corps)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of J. McCarthy, of Walthamstow.

McCarthy lost his sight as a result of injuries sustained whilst serving in France. He came to St. Dunstan's for training, but was never able to do a great amount of work. Some years ago he had a very serious operation, from the effects of which he had not recovered, and it was obvious during his recent visit to the Ovingdean Home in January that he was rapidly going downhill. He wanted to return to his friends in London, who had looked after him so devotedly, and a few weeks later, on the 20th February, he died.

The funeral was attended by his friend, Miss Darley, and several of his St. Dunstaners comrades. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

PRIVATE BERTRAM CHALKE
(Royal Army Service Corps)

WE record with deepest regret the death of B. Chalke, of Fareham.

Chalke's sight failed gradually as a result of his war service, and he came to St. Dunstan's in 1922. At his own wish he did not undertake any form of training. Since losing his sight his health had not been good, and it gradually deteriorated until he had to be admitted to hospital, where he has been for some years. His death took place quite suddenly on the 24th of February.

The funeral took place at Boscombe Cemetery, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Chalke and her daughter.

Personal

The sons of the late B. J. Day, and the son and daughters of the late A. A. Green, express their sincere thanks to all friends for their kind sympathy in their recent loss, and their deep appreciation of the loving care and attention given to their father by Matron and the staff at the Hospital.

Mrs. E. Hope Atkinson would like to express her grateful thanks to the many St. Dunstan's joiners who have written to her in her bereavement. She deeply regrets that it is not possible for her to reply to all personally.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 262—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

APRIL, 1940

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

Twenty-five Years

ST. DUNSTAN'S was twenty-five years old on March 26th. Formal celebrations in wartime were not possible, but in a variety of ways the occasion was called to mind. Most of the newspapers carried a story of St. Dunstan's at home and abroad, the Chairman broadcast in "The World Goes By," in the Home programme, and in "In England Now," in the Overseas Service, and the weekly dance at the Brighton Home on Tuesday, March 26th, was made the occasion for an informal celebration.

To everybody's regret, Matron Boyd Rochfort was unable to be present. She had been taken ill about a week previously, and an operation had been considered necessary. This was performed at a Brighton nursing home and was, happily, successful. Many tributes of affection and anxiety were expressed by St. Dunstaners and their wives, and we feel sure that these would have been shared by St. Dunstan's men everywhere. As we go to press we are glad to learn from a message from Mr. Davenport that Matron is going on well.

Referring to Matron in a speech which he made at the dance, in the interval, Sir Ian expressed the regret which all the men of St. Dunstan's felt at the illness of Miss Boyd Rochfort, who had been V.A.D., Sister, and Matron for more than twenty years. He was glad to say there was good hope that she would make a satisfactory recovery.

Continuing, Sir Ian said it was a tragic thought that they should be celebrating their 25th birthday under the shadow of war. It was distressing to contemplate the possibility that the ranks of St. Dunstan's might now be added to perhaps in large numbers.

Already seven new war cases had passed through the Hospital, but none was the result of injury in action. Three were medical cases and four were accidents. Three had left, having recovered useful sight, and the remaining four were still in hospital.

St. Dunstan's was singularly well equipped to deal with the problem of war blindness for it had a magnificent building, 25 years of experience, a wonderfully trained and devoted staff, and above all the spirit of the men of the Great War, who would show any newcomers the way to victory over blindness.

"I think," said Sir Ian, "we can all be proud of St. Dunstan's. The generous British public have made our work possible, but you men in your homes all over the Empire, by your success, your courage, and your cheerfulness, have made our organization world-famous. Not only has St. Dunstan's meant hope and salvation to 3,000 blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen, but the poignancy and drama associated with blindness, and the spiritual revival of so many men of one generation has struck the public imagination and has led to a renaissance in the world of the blind."

Sir Ian in Parliament Again

Sir Ian Fraser is at present in the North of England—in Lonsdale, Lancashire—which explains why there are no Chairman's Notes this month.

Sir Ian was adopted by the Lonsdale Unionist Association as candidate in the by-election caused by the succession of Lord Baniel to his father's title of Lord Crawford and Balcarres, and as we go to press, we hear that he had been returned unopposed. We offer him our hearty congratulations.

Fighting an election would have been a familiar experience for our Chairman, for he has had a long and varied connection with Parliamentary and civic politics. Just before Sir Arthur Pearson died in 1921, and with Sir Arthur's warmest approval and support, he had been adopted by North St. Pancras as their candidate for the London County Council. At the subsequent election, he was returned at the head of the poll, and thus became the first blind London County Councillor. He had by then succeeded Sir Arthur as Chairman of St. Dunstan's, and realising that it was necessary for the head of an organisation like ours to enter public life, and thus make frequent contacts with the various organs of Government, he went on with the job. He remained on the London County Council until 1925, but meanwhile, in 1924, he fought his first Parliamentary election, which resulted in his return to Parliament as Member for North St. Pancras. Between 1924 and 1936 (the year of his retirement, owing to his appointment as a B.B.C. Governor), he fought five elections, winning four and losing one.

St. Dunstan's itself has no politics. It is concerned only with the well-being of blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen, and it is not from the political aspect that we think of the Chairman's membership of the House of Commons. We view it from two other angles.

As a St. Dunstaner himself, Sir Ian spreads the story of St. Dunstan's to Ministers, to Members, to the Press, and, through the Press, to the public. He presents the story of Victory over Blindness in its most significant form—that of personal example. He is St. Dunstan's ambassador in the House of Commons. Secondly, there is the value of the many contacts which he thereby makes, and which he places fully at St. Dunstan's disposal, and at the disposal of blind people generally, and old soldiers.

We feel sure all St. Dunstaners will wish the Chairman good luck in his return to Parliament.

The New Pensions Scheme

A NEW clause has been added to the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, which reduces the age at which a contributory old age pension can be awarded to a woman from 65 to 60 years. This provision comes into force on the 1st July, 1940.

Women who have reached the age of 60, but not age 65, on the 30th July, 1940, will be eligible for an old age pension as from July 4th, 1940, on condition that they are wives of insured men who have attained the age of 65 and are entitled to the old age pension. Also if they are insured themselves and have been continuously insured for at least five years before July 1st, 1940.

A form of application may be obtained from any post office, and the wives of St. Dunstaners who are eligible would be well advised to make their application as soon as possible, when the pension will date as from July 1st, 1940. If there are any difficulties or queries, Mr. Banks will be glad to help in any way he can.

Make a Note—

to apply for Derby Sweepstake tickets as soon as possible. Closing date: June 3rd.

St. Dunstan's Offer to Finns

SHORTLY after the collapse of the Finnish war, Sir Ian Fraser wrote to the Minister for Finland in London, saying, "The deep sympathy of my comrades and Council goes out to any of your young men who may have lost their sight in your war for freedom and independence. If our experience and technical help can be of assistance to your people, we will be pleased to place them at your disposal." In expressing thanks for the sympathy of the British people and St. Dunstan's, the Minister says he will report the offer to his Government.

Sir Ian Fraser told the Editor of the REVIEW that what he had in mind was to provide the Finns, if they wished it, with information and technical help in the training in Finland of any young men who were blinded. It was possible that they might like to send representatives to see St. Dunstan's and gather information, or that St. Dunstan's might send an official to Finland to help them. At present he had no information as to whether there was any serious number of blinded soldiers.

Brighton News

Ovingdean Tunnel Opened

THE tunnel leading from the grounds of the Ovingdean Home underneath the coast road has now been opened, and all St. Dunstaners' should make a point of being shown the tunnel soon after they arrive.

One entrance is in our grounds and it leads under the road to a point just behind the bus shelter by the stopping place opposite the Home. There are guiding rails down the steps.

Alighting from a Brighton-bound bus at the usual stop, it is only necessary to turn back a few steps into the tunnel.

The tunnel can also be reached by an entrance leading from the promenade below the bus shelter.

Chapel Services

The Rev. Harold Gibb, a St. Dunstan's officer, was at Brighton during the Easter period, and conducted the Service at the Chapel at Ovingdean on Good Friday, and the Communion Service and five o'clock Service on Easter Sunday.

Volk's Railway Changes Hands

BRIGHTON'S famous sea-front railway—the first electric one in Britain—has become the property of the Brighton Corporation. After fifty-six years it has passed out of the hands of the private company, whose founder, Mr. Magnus Volk, built it in 1883.

More than twenty-five million passengers have travelled on the railway.

Mr. Magnus Volk, who was one of the pioneers in the development of electricity in this country, died in 1937, at the age of 85.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to : Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Iddiolls, of Queen's Park, March 10th ; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Matthews, of Rhyl, April 3rd ; Mr. and Mrs. A. Keep, of London, N.7, and Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Fleming, of Dagenham, April 5th ; Mr. and Mrs. R. Edwards, of Denbigh, April 11th ; and Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Porter, of Southampton, May 1st.

A Record ?

The wife of H. G. Chafer, of Hull (our St. Dunstaner who died in 1932) is serving with the W.R.N.S. The daughter is also in the Service, and the son is in the Navy. This must surely be a family record—all members in Naval units.

St. Dunstan's Dart Championship

ST. DUNSTANERS will be interested in the "All-Britain" Darts Championship for the "Gracie Fields" trophy, which is being organised in aid of St. Dunstan's, and which we hope will be a great success.

If any St. Dunstaner knows of an A.R.P. post, or a local group where darts are popular, we should be glad if he would mention the matter, or send us a line so that we can send them all particulars.

Competition Corner

The solution to last month's problem was £6 13s. The first correct solution opened on the closing date came from W. W. M. Williamson, of Denton, Manchester, to whom the prize of 10s. 6d. is being sent.

T. Cheal, of Saltford, is responsible for the following, and we warn you it is rather a knotty one :

A wealthy Persian left his three sons seventeen camels, to be divided as follows : one-half to the eldest, one-third to the second, and a ninth to the youngest son. Not knowing how to do this, the sons asked the village wise man. How did he solve the problem? 10s. 6d. to the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, May 6th. Mark your envelopes "Competition Corner."

Omar (ex B.E.F.) on "Housey"

*Myself, when young, did frequently recline
Upon the grass and scan the numbered Line,
Until some lucky blighter bellowed "House !"
But never was that happy yodel mine.
I heard a voice behind the Canteen cry
Of Legs Eleven and of Kelly's I,
Clicketty-Click, and other mysteries,
And bought a card and had another try.
Ah, chum ! How oft with quenchless hope afire,
Did we upon the bottom Line perspire,
And waste the francs we might have spent on beer,
And in the end disconsolate retire !
Indeed, indeed, we feckless soldier folk
Cared little whether we were flush or broke ;
But Nobby Clark, who ran the game, they say,
Became as rich as any Quarter-Bloke.
("REVEILLE.")*

Marriage

SUTTON—GOLDING.—On April 7th, at Madeley Parish Church, A. W. Sutton, of Madeley, Crewe, to Miss A. I. Golding, of Blackheath, Birmingham.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ALLEN, P/O Michael (Wallasey), H.M.S. *Edinburgh*.
 ALLEN, Private W. (Morecambe), K.O.R.R.
 ALLEN, Signaller F. (Wallasey), C.C.S., S.N.O.

BOSWELL, Trooper J.
 BREWER, Sapper R. (Bristol), Royal Engineers.
 BREWER, Gunner A. (Cornwall), Royal Artillery.
 BREWER, Gunner T. H., Royal Artillery.
 BRIGGS, Gunner A. G. (Norwich), Royal Artillery.
 BRIGGS, Gunner W. C. (Norwich), Royal Artillery.
 BROADBENT, Bandsman A., H.L.I.
 BROADBENT, Guardsman G., 3rd Scots Guards.
 BROCKERTON, L/Bdr. G., Royal Artillery.
 BROOKE, Trooper K. (Sheffield), 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoons.

BROOKES, A/C1 D. (Southampton), Royal Air Force.
 BROWN, Driver A. C. (Nuneaton).
 BURNETT, Chief Radio Officer George (Rescue and Salvage Ship).

BURNETT, Gunner H. A., T.A.
 BURRAN, A/C1, Wireless Operator Colin, Royal Air Force.

BUTLER, L/Cpl. W. H. (Distington).
 BYRD, A/C1 Billy, Royal Air Force.

CARTER, Private G. A. (Southend), Essex Regiment.
 CHAMBERS, Private W. A. (Birmingham), R.A.M.C.
 COLE, Bertie (Appledore), Royal Marines.
 COLE, Billy (Appledore), Merchant Service.
 COX, A/B. K., H.M.S. *Plaver*.
 COX, Private J., Durham Light Infantry.

DANCE, Private E., Royal Air Force.
 DAVIDSON, O/B. C. (Bradford), H.M.S. *Drake*.
 DAVIDSON, Private J. (Bradford), The Loyal Regt.
 DONEGAN, Driver E., Royal Horse Artillery.
 DONNELLY, Gunner J., 156/52 L.A.A.

GILHOOLY, Nursing Orderly G. S., Royal Air Force.
 GRIFFITHS, Sapper R. W. (Northampton), Royal Engineers.

HARRIS, A. H. (Catford), East Surrey Regt.
 HARVEY, Stoker L/C. V. J. (Worthing), H.M.S. *Malaya*.

HENDERSON, Sapper A., Royal Engineers.
 HENDERSON, Sapper S., Royal Engineers.
 HENDERSON, Rifleman R., K.R.R.C.
 HICKS, Gunner A., A.A. Training Regt.

JARMAN, Seaman T., H.M.S. *Revenge*.
 JARMAN, Bugler A., D.B. Royal Engineers.

MITCHELL, Private J. (Leith), R.A.O.C.
 MOORE, Drummer Boy (Southport), Scots Guards.
 MOORE, James (Folkestone), H.M.S. *Orion*.
 MOORE, T. I., A.T.S.

MOORE, Private T. E. (Folkestone), 8th Irish King's Regt.

OWEN, Sapper E. (Liverpool), Royal Engineers.
 OWEN, Fusilier G. (Bethesda), R.W.F.
 OWEN, A/C2 J. (Liverpool), Royal Air Force.
 OWEN, A. (Liverpool), Royal Air Force.

PALMER, R., H.M.S. *Malaya*.
 PINNER, Marine A. P. H., Royal Marines.
 POTTS, Private C. (Norton-on-Tees).
 POTTS, Private A. (Norton-on-Tees), No. 2 I.T.C.
 POTTS, Private J. (Norton-on-Tees), 1st/5th D.L.I.
 RADLEY, Private W., R.A.O.C.
 ROBINSON, L/Cpl. E. (Grimsby), Lincolnshire Regt.
 ROBINSON, O/D. W. (Grimsby), H.M.S. *Jervis*.

SAMWORTH, Stoker G., H.M.S. *Royal Arthur*.
 SAYERS, A/C. H., Royal Air Force.
 SAYERS, Leading Aircraftman T., Royal Air Force.
 SHAYLER, Private W., South Lancs Regt.
 SHARPE, L/Bdr. Grenville, 16th Field Regt. R.A.
 SHEPHERD, Sapper G. (Leighton Buzzard), Royal Engineers.

SHEPHERD, Sapper W. (Leighton Buzzard), Royal Engineers.

SHERIDAN, Francis, H.M.S. *Kent*.
 SHERIDAN, Private Patrick (Glasgow), Royal Fusiliers.

SHERIDAN, Martin (Glasgow), Merchant Service.
 STEEL, J. (Glasgow), 306th Field Regt. R.A.
 STORER, P/AM. Leslie, H.M.S. *Medina*.
 SUMMERS, Leading Aircraftman A., Royal Air Force.

TAYLOR, Sapper R. H. (Bournemouth), R.E. Construction Company.

WALTERS, A/B. S. (Plymouth), H.M.S. *Aphis*.
 WATT, A/C1 C. (Montrose), Royal Air Force.
 WILLIAMS, Private D. (Cardiff), R.A.O.C.
 WILLIAMSON, Leading Telephonist H. (Chorlton, Manchester).

Young St. Dunstaners

Congratulations to the son of J. McAvoy, of Mauchline, Ayrshire, who has been appointed Milk Recorder for Bute and Rothesay, under the Scottish Milk Records Association.

★ ★ ★

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Jackson, of Heswall, Cheshire, was married on Easter Monday.

★ ★ ★

The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Last, of Crynant, was also married on Easter Monday, to Miss Rita Willet. A few days later he left for France.

★ ★ ★

May Yuile, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yuile, of Maryhill, Glasgow, was married on March 21st to Mr. Jack Mitchell.

★ ★ ★

Frances, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Corns, of Kenton, was married on March 14th to Corporal A. Moremont, of the Royal Air Force.

★ ★ ★

Denise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Richardson, was married to Mr. Leslie Tucknott at St. Augustine's, Hammersmith, on March 17th.

★ ★ ★

Tom Burnett, D.C.L.I., son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Burnett of Edmonton, who is a prisoner of war in Germany, took part in a broadcast from Bremen on April 7th.

He sent his love to various members of his family, and "to the Matron of St. Dunstan's."

Christopher Stone Writes:

"THE other day I found the train from Brighton crowded, and I wandered along the corridor till at last I found a carriage with only six men in it, and, forcing my way between their feet, I wedged myself in and tried to look comfortable. Four men were talking with animation, and when I had a look at them I observed that they were blind.

"They all had fine, interesting faces, were well and neatly dressed, handled their pipes or cigarettes with complete assurance, and had obviously been blinded in the last war.

"All the way to London they talked incessantly, and never in my life have I listened to a more interesting conversation.

"From the subject of caged birds and the cruelty to them in the bad old days, they passed to books and the story of the du Mauriers—and Trilby—and Daphne du Maurier's novels.

"I never read novels,' said one firmly. 'There's so little time. No, lately I've been reading a lot about religions.'

"Well, that started them off. Theosophy, Annie Besant, Christianity, the nature of sin—the whole gamut of that never-ending and fascinating argument was touched between the four of them, and I noticed with some surprise that there was very little mention of faith and a great deal of insistence on evidence.

"And yet the whole glory of their mastery of life since the tragedy of twenty odd years ago is their steadfast faith. To be in the company of such happy, alert and serious-minded men as these makes one proud of our much-maligned humanity.

"When we arrived at Victoria I said to one of them: 'Are you going to St. Dunstan's?'

"No,' he said. 'We are going home. We are off to make our living again in our home towns.' And he told me that two were trained masseurs and two osteopaths. Wherever those men go they will carry with them the gift of more than mere physical healing and assuagement. Just as we were parting my new friend frowned slightly. 'You know, your voice is very like Christopher Stone's.'

"And a few minutes later, when the greetings had died down, we were going on our way arm in arm along the platform to the barrier, where friends met them."

—From the "Women's Illustrated," March 16th, 1940.

Congratulations to Sir Neville

Sir Neville Pearson, who is serving in the Anti-Aircraft Artillery, has been promoted to the rank of Major.

Sir Neville, although he was very young, having only just left Eton College, was an officer in the Royal Artillery in the Great War, and was wounded in action.

He rejoined his old arm of the Service before the present war broke out.

Canadian St. Dunstaner Honoured

CAPTAIN EDWIN BAKER, Managing Director of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, has become an important figure in the North American blind world.

He has been appointed President of the American Association of Workers for the Blind. This is an organisation which co-ordinates the work of all the recognised blind associations throughout the North American continent. This is the first time a Canadian has received this honour.

In recent years, Captain Baker has taken an active part in preparing Canada for her present war effort, which he foresaw would be necessary. He has been a distinguished member of the Canadian National Defence Council, and for his services has been promoted to the honorary rank of lieutenant-colonel.

Brief Notes

During Queen Elizabeth's visit to the Star and Garter Home recently, Her Majesty stopped and spoke to our St. Dunstaner, C. F. Gibson. Gibson thought her very charming.

★ ★ ★

On Easter Monday, Mr. and Mrs. W. Kirkby, of Slough, became the proud grandparents of a fine little grandson.

★ ★ ★

E. E. Callow, of Brentwood, one of St. Dunstan's shop-keepers, has taken up woodwork at evening classes, and is making excellent progress. His local paper said, "His polished work is easily comparable with that of any other member."

Roll of Honour

With deep regret we learn that the death is feared of the son of Captain Ernest Bowler, a St. Dunstan's officer, while on R.A.F. patrol and convoy duty in the North Sea.

Norman Goes for a Walk

NORMAN is six years and nine months old. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Hunt, of King Henry's Road, N.W., and he has inherited all the St. Dunstan's initiative and perseverance.

He has been staying with his mother's people at Brighton, and has been attending school there. One day last month he got separated from his school friends and took a wrong turning. He walked all along the Front by himself (four miles) and in due course saw St. Dunstan's on the Downs at Ovingdean. This was familiar. Perhaps father was there. Anyway, he decided to call on Matron.

He remembered that there was a tunnel somewhere. He found it, walked through it, struggled gamely, and arrived at the Home.

Father wasn't there after all, but Matron was, and it was nice to see Matron. Funny, though, how surprised she was to see him! Funnier still that she had to send a wire to grandmother and auntie, and *tell the police!* If a chap can't have a little walk when he feels like it. . . .

Not bad for only six and three-quarters.

Coneyhurst

*Come ye with me, dear friend, and we will seek
The wooded hills, the hills that ever speak
To those that have the will to understand,
Of quiet things, of evolution planned
Long years ago, to run its endless course,
And mould the world aright with loving force.*

*Come ye with me, dear friend, and we will roam
By rugged footpath through the gorse and broom,
By bracken sweet and bramble berry vine,
To reach the summit where the trees entwine
Their branches overhead, and thus have made
A screen of leafy green for welcome shade.*

*Here stay with me, dear friend, and while we look
From this most charming and entrancing nook
Across the lovely Weald set out below,
With woods and fields and villages we know,
All pleasing rarely with their greens and browns,
To melt into the distant southern Downs.*

*So stay with me, dear friend, and while we rest
Upon the close-cropped turf, employ our best
To harmonise our minds to Nature's show
Of earthly beauty; and in doing so
Compact our hearts the closer, till we find
True loveliness in unison of mind.*

R.J.V.

Sports Club Notes

Annual Sports and Regatta

Subject to the approval of the authorities, it is proposed to hold the above annual events on the following dates:—

June 22nd ... General Sports.

July 10th ... Regatta.

* Will members who wish to take part in either event this year, please forward their entries to the Sports Office, at Headquarters, Regent's Park, as early as possible, to enable the necessary arrangements to be made.

Summer Sports

The weekly outdoor London Summer Sports will start at Regent's Park on Tuesday, May 7th, at 7 p.m.

Brighton

It is proposed to commence the Brighton Summer Sports on Thursday, May 9th, at the Hospital, Ovingdean.

Tea will be served in the Winter Garden at 5 p.m., and the Sports will begin at 6 p.m. It is hoped that as many Brighton sportsmen as possible will endeavour to attend.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

ON March 9th, St. Dunstan's bridge players played a team representing the Civil Service Association, at India House. Mr. S. Lall, i.c.s., Deputy High Commissioner for India, welcomed the teams on behalf of the High Commissioner, Sir Firozkhan Noon.

The teams were twelve a side. Although we lost we felt that we were by no means disgraced. In fact, the margin showed that we had improved our standard of play considerably since the introduction of the new method of scoring.

On Saturday, March 30th, sixteen of our Club played sixteen of the Post Office Bridge Club, four matches of four a side. On this occasion we won with our No. 3 team.

Over forty people were present, Mr. Callow, of the Post Office, officiating.

H.G.

Births

BARLOW.—To the wife of S. Barlow, of King's Lynn, a daughter—Mary.

CONDON.—To the wife of P. Condon, of Cork, on February 29th, a daughter.

HORGAN.—To the wife of D. Horgan, of Cork, on March 13th, a son—Richard.

“ In Memory ”

GEORGE DENNISS
(*H.M. Mine Sweeper*)

WE deeply regret to record the death of G. Denniss, of Grimsby, which occurred in December last. Inadvertently, this notice has been held up.

Denniss served with the Dover Patrol during the Great War. Previously he had been a member of the R.N.R.T., and had been for many years at sea as skipper of a trawler.

He did not come to St. Dunstan's notice until 1928, when, unfortunately, he was already an invalid, and training was not possible. For many years he had been bed-ridden, his wife and daughter nursing him devotedly, but he died quite suddenly on December 6th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was among the flowers.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Denniss and her daughter in their loss.

SERGEANT JOHN MAXWELL STEEL
(*Canadian Field Artillery*)

WE record with deep regret the death of J. M. Steel, of the Star and Garter Home, Richmond.

Steel was a St. Dunstaner whose sight did not fail until early in 1937, but it was proved that this was due to his war service. Unfortunately, his health was such that he was unable to come to us, and he remained at the Star and Garter Home, where he was an in-patient at the time he became a St. Dunstaner until his death. He passed peacefully away in his sleep on March 22nd.

The funeral took place a few days later, at Alperton. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

In a letter to Sir Ian, his brother (Mr. Gordon Steel) writes: "Will you please pass on our thanks to all those of St. Dunstan's staff, and the visitors, for all they have done to make his last years here with us a bit brighter than they might have been without St. Dunstan's."

LANCE-CORPORAL JOHN DAVID HIGGINS
(*Military Foot Police*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of J. D. Higgins, of Brighton.

Higgins was wounded at the Dardanelles, in 1915, and as a result lost his sight. He came to St. Dunstan's for training in mat-making, at which occupation he worked up to the time of his death, which occurred on March 8th, as the result of an accident. While crossing a road in the centre of Brighton, during the black-out, he was knocked down by a motor lorry, and died in hospital an hour later.

The funeral took place at Brighton Cemetery; he was buried near some of his St. Dunstan's comrades. The Vicar of Telscombe, the Rev. Harries, conducted the service, and Higgins' very good friends, Mr. and Miss Laker, attended the funeral, as well as various members of St. Dunstan's staff.

Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER HENRY WILKINS
(*Royal Navy*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of H. Wilkins, of Gravesend.

After the battle of Jutland, in which Wilkins' ship took part, his sight failed, and later he came to St. Dunstan's for training in joinery. He worked continually at this occupation until last year, when his health began to fail. Early this year he was taken seriously ill; he was removed to hospital, but he died on March 17th.

His body was cremated, and the funeral took place at Charing, Kent. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Wilkins and her daughter in their bereavement, and also to all Wilkins' friends, who will greatly miss him.

PRIVATE G. J. WHEELER
(*4th Royal Fusiliers*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of G. J. Wheeler, of Maidenhead.

Wheeler, whose sight was affected as a result of his war service, did not go blind until some time after the end of the war, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1926. He also suffered from deafness.

He was trained in basket-making, and later gave this up in favour of joinery, at which he proved an excellent pupil. Of late years his health had not been very good, and when he was admitted to the Ovingdean Home, in February, it was feared that he might possibly not recover. Two weeks later he was taken to hospital, where he died on March 6th.

The funeral took place at Brighton Cemetery, and the service was conducted by the Rev. Browning, Chaplain to the Sussex Deaf-Blind Association. Various St. Dunstaner friends, including R. J. Williams and G. Fallowfield, attended the service, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and another from his deaf-blind St. Dunstaner comrades.

We send our sympathy to Wheeler's relatives.

PRIVATE FRANK H. DOWNES
(9th Bn. Australian Imperial Forces)

It is with deep regret that we have heard of the death of a comparatively new St. Dunstaner, F. H. Downes, of Sydney, New South Wales.

Downes returned to Australia after being discharged in December, 1915, and was trained at the Sydney Industrial Blind Institution, but his name was entered on our list of overseas St. Dunstaners in July, 1936.

News has reached us that he died in hospital at Randwick, N.S.W., on August 29th, 1939. For some time he lived on Norfolk Island.

Our deep sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

RIFLEMAN TOM WRIGHT
(Royal Irish Rifles)

WITH deep regret we announce the death of Tom Wright, of Belfast.

Wright enlisted in September, 1914, and was discharged from the Army in April, 1919, but although he was under our care since May, 1933, he was never able to come to St. Dunstan's.

He died on February 22nd, at Caledon, Co. Tyrone, where he had been taken at the outbreak of war. He was brought home to Belfast, and the funeral took place at Dundonald Cemetery four days later. The coffin, draped in the Union Jack, was borne on an Army lorry, and an escort of soldiers and buglers acted as pall bearers. There were present members of Toc H, the British Legion, and representatives of other organisations in which Wright has taken interest. Mr. and Mrs. Gribben represented St. Dunstan's, and among the many beautiful wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades.

Mr. N. Macauley writes:—

"He lay paralyzed for twenty years. His sight went away. His speech became worse and worse, until of late he has only been able to make sounds for 'yes' and 'no.' All that was left alive of him was a keen brain, his hearing, and a wonderful smile. He was never long without smiling! It flashed over his face like sunlight, at the least provocation. One might say he had little to live for, yet he had contrived to keep everything that makes life worth while—a gay outlook, a high courage, great thoughtfulness for others, wisdom, and complete peace of mind. First call on his pension each week was the part set aside to be given to those who were worse off than himself. No sad case or good cause came to his notice which he did not help. He feared one thing only—to pity himself, and because he could laugh at his troubles, those who visited him with lesser troubles went away comforted. Hundreds have called to see him in the little parlour where he lay—rich and poor, high and low, good and bad. Men from the shipyards brought stories of the day's work. Toc H and the British Legion told of their efforts. Sir Harry Lauder came to sing to him. Others came with hands generously filled with this world's good things, to be told, 'I have enough, but others have need.' People in sore trouble came and went away strangely helped.

"His little room became a very happy place of kindness and goodness. Gaiety, joyousness, and peace lived with him always.

"Now this great-hearted soldier has slipped very quietly into that Land on whose borders he has lingered so long but the fragrance of his life will remain here and there all over the world for long years to come.

" 'There is nothing here for tears.' "

Fire Tragedy at St. Dunstan's Home

HIS friends will learn with deep regret of the death of the wife of J. Debnam, of Great Barrow, Chester, in tragic circumstances.

When fire broke out at their home on the night of March 30th, Mrs. Debnam's nightdress caught alight. Debnam made a desperate and gallant attempt to put out the flames, but Mrs. Debnam broke away from him and leaped from the window of their bedroom on to the footpath many feet below. She died in hospital a few hours later from burns and head injuries.

Their seventeen-year-old son, Gwylm, was also burned while trying to put out the flames, but Debnam himself, and his other boy, Neville, were uninjured.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

ADAMS.—To A. Adams, of Balby, whose wife passed away on March 8th.

BRADFORD.—To Mr. and Mrs. E. Bradford, of Heeley, Sheffield, who lost their daughter, Brenda, on March 13th.

COX.—To W. G. Cox, of Woodstock, Oxford, whose wife died on March 27th.

STREET.—To W. Street, of Evesham, whose mother passed away on March 13th, after many years of suffering, at the age of 71.

Mr. C. E. Rose

Early St. Dunstaners will hear with regret of the death of Mr. C. E. Rose, who was Hon. Superintendent of St. Dunstan's from its start in Bayswater in 1915 until the end of 1917.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 263—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

MAY, 1940

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

Rise in the Cost of Living

THE rise in the cost of living troubles all of us, but more particularly those who have to live on a small income, such as a disability pension. I know that this matter is exercising the minds of a great many St. Dunstaners and other disabled men throughout the country.

The following figures may be of some interest. Taking the cost of living in July, 1914, at 100, it rose in 1919 to 215, thus more than doubling itself. In 1933, at the bottom of the great slump, it was 136. In September, 1939, just before the present war broke out, it was 155, and in April, 1940, just before I wrote this note, it was 178. Thus it has risen 23 points, or just under 15 per cent., since the present war broke out. On top of this, there is a heavy increase in taxation. Relatively few disabled ex-service men pay income tax, for the war pension itself is, by a special concession, tax free, but all suffer more or less from indirect taxation. The tax on cigarettes, tobacco, beer, and whisky has become extremely high and so the price has gone up, and twopence-halfpenny for a letter is a very large fee to pay, particularly for one who carries on a considerable correspondence. All these changes definitely mean that the income buys less than it did, and that the standard of living is to that extent reduced.

Let us examine this whole matter quietly and fairly from our own point of view and that of the country. Great War pensions were fixed in 1919. At that time the cost of living was 215. As I have stated before, by 1933, at the time of the great slump, it had dropped to 136. Readers will remember that during this slump practically all salaries and wages, and even unemployment allowances, were cut, and in practically all countries in Europe, Great War pensions were cut also. Even in some of our Dominions, Great War pensions or allowances were reduced in certain cases. But here in Britain no cuts in pensions or allowances were made, so that during the period of the slump disabled ex-service men were relatively better off than the rest of the community, and actually better off than millions who were unemployed. Now that the cost of living has risen again, and during the past few months it has been a steep rise, disabled ex-service men are relatively worse off than a good many people, and are actually worse off than a vast number of skilled and semi-skilled men in industry, whose wages have risen.

I do not think we can expect that our standard of living will be maintained in war-time at the pre-war level. The fact that the whole of the nation's productive power, represented by factories, foundries, blast furnaces, machine shops, and so on, must be used primarily to provide arms, ammunition and supplies for the fighting forces means that there will be less goods available for the civilian population, and the fact that shipping space has been reduced by enemy action, and by the ships having to travel in convoy, thus taking much longer to reach their destinations, means that reduced supplies of many things which used to come from overseas will be available. Thus there will be less goods, less food, less

tobacco, and so on, for the civilian population. The Government has introduced rationing for certain important commodities for industry and the consumer, in order to see that in this time of scarcity what is available is fairly distributed. I have no doubt that when the Government, with—it must be remembered—the full approval of both the Labour and Liberal Opposition, raised the tax on such articles as tobacco, beer, whisky, etc., to a very high level indeed, that they deliberately wanted to reduce consumption. Tobacco comes from abroad, so does sugar, which plays a large part in the making of beer, and so do some of the grains used in both whisky and beer. I have no doubt that the Government wants us to use less of these articles so as to increase our national power to ship into the country essential war materials and foods. So this taxation is partly intended to raise revenue to pay for the war and partly intended to reduce our consumption, or lower our standard of living.

What do we think of this? Well, obviously we all dislike having our standard of living reduced. We dislike giving up our small comforts, such as tobacco, beer, etc., to any extent, but the fact remains that these sacrifices directly help the winning of the war, and directly help to see that our boys in the Army, Navy, and Air Force are properly equipped. None of us would want them to undertake their hazardous and arduous jobs without the best equipment and supplies that the nation can give them. I think, therefore, we must make up our minds to cut down our consumption, not only because we cannot afford to continue it, but also in the knowledge that we are definitely helping to make an end to the present disturbed conditions in the world and bring about better times.

But the time will come when the sacrifice called for from disabled ex-service men will be excessive by comparison with that being made by others in the community, and we will then be justified in pressing for an increase in pensions. I have already begun to prepare the way for this. Indeed, the first word I uttered in Parliament the other week was to raise this question with the Minister of Pensions. I set out below the questions and answers which took place in the House of Commons on May 2nd:—

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER asked the Minister of Pensions whether he can make any statement as to the Government's intention to raise the rates of disability pensions paid to Great War ex-service men to meet the rise in the cost of living?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: I would refer my hon. and gallant Friend to the answer given by the Minister of Pensions in this House on 31st July, 1928, on the question of the stabilisation of Great War pensions. It was then stated that, while the rates of those pensions would not be reduced, they would be liable to increase if the cost of living should ever exceed that of the year 1919, on which Great War pensions were fixed. That figure was 215, while the figure to-day is 178. The hon. Member will appreciate that there is at present no justification for increasing those rates.

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER: May I ask my hon. Friend to bear in mind that this class of the community suffers a deprivation when the cost of living rises, that many of their sons are at the war, and that they themselves, being disabled, cannot be employed at the higher rates which many other people are now receiving; and will he therefore give the matter further consideration?

On the face of it, we have got nothing out of this exchange of questions and answers, but if you read them carefully you will see that there is more than a hint that the pensions will be raised when the cost of living reaches the figure of 215. You will remember from the table quoted earlier in this article that it now stands at 178.

Every person in the community must make sacrifices, and even disabled soldiers must give up a little of the expenditure they used to enjoy, but my own feeling is that, for the reasons I have given, the Government ought to consider their position, and I shall continue to press the matter.

The pensions proposed to be granted to men disabled in this present war are on a lower scale than those being received by men of the Great War. Our first reaction to this is to say that it is wrong, and that the young fellows should have the same as the veterans, but before arriving at this conclusion we ought to think the matter over a little. We do not yet know whether the number of men likely to be disabled in this war will be numbered in thousands or hundreds of thousands. Until the problem can be measured it is wise for the country to go carefully, and not to commit itself to a burden which it may not be able to bear, and it must be remembered that there is always a chance that very large numbers of civilians, A.R.P. workers, fire brigades, police, and others may also be severely disabled, and they will, of course, have to be provided for. We do not want the standard set for

the disabled man of the Great War to be brought down in a financial crash. What we want is to maintain the standard of the Great War man and, if possible, improve it, and then, as we see the size of the problem, work up the standard of the new men to that of the veterans.

But meantime there is one matter in relation to the new men upon which I disagree with the new Warrant. The conditions under which pensions will be granted to men of the present war are a good deal stiffer than those for men of the Great War, and all of us know that they were difficult enough. If it had not been for the Pensions Department of St. Dunstan's, under the direction of Mr. Askew, and with the assistance of Mr. Banks, which so skilfully put forward claims for our men, and all the good work of the British Legion Pensions Department for other ex-service men, a great many would not be receiving pensions which they are now getting. Accordingly, on the same day in Parliament I asked some questions about conditions for the new men. These questions and answers are set out below:

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER asked the Minister of Pensions whether he will amend the 1939 Royal Warrant so that it will not be more difficult for new ex-service men who claim that they are suffering from conditions attributable to or aggravated by war service, to prove their case than it has been for Great War ex-service men under the 1919 Warrant; and whether he will provide independent tribunals to which the rejected claims of ex-service men for war pensions, etc., may be referred by way of appeal?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: Both the matters referred to by my hon. and gallant Friend have been under discussion with my Statutory Advisory Committee, as a result of which I am at present considering the terms of the article of the Royal Warrant dealing with the first point. A general system of appeals to independent tribunals in war time must, as I have explained to the House, present great difficulties of several kinds, but the Government will no doubt consider the question after the war in the light of the conditions then prevailing. In the meantime, all appeals by rejected claimants are carefully considered, and where suitable, referred to a panel of independent medical experts.

SIR IAN FRASER: In particular reference to the independent medical appeal, which the Minister has suggested was possible, is it not a fact that those medical persons are paid by the Ministry? Will not the Minister consider, as an interim step, creating a really independent medical opinion?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: The medical specialists are independent. They are nominated by the Royal College of Physicians or the Royal College of Surgeons. Although it is true that they are paid by the Ministry, we have no power over these people at all, and we never interfere with them.

Parliament and the whole nation is, of course, primarily concerned with the war effort, and rightly so, but we must not forget the old soldiers, sailors, and airmen, and in particular we must remember that their average age is now approaching fifty, and that, as they get older, their disabilities will weigh more heavily upon them and their wives. And we must see to it also that any new fellows who come to St. Dunstan's, or who are wounded in other ways, get a square deal.

IAN FRASER.

From Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

I really am very ashamed of myself for letting you down as I have done these past few weeks, besides being so disappointed to miss so many of you when you went to Ovingdean.

Anyway, I am getting on grand now, and once I am able to leave the nursing home and get away for a good pick-me-up, then I hope to get the doctor's permission to come back.

The wonderful kindness I have received from everyone will always remain a very sweet memory, as will all your most kind and charming letters, lovely flowers, and cheery messages, for which I want to thank you and your wives from the bottom of

my heart, for not only did they help and cheer me, but they made me feel like—well, to quote some words from Gracie Fields' "Aspidistra" song—"the very proudest Matron in the world"!!

My love to you all,

Your affectionate and grateful,

MATRON.

Time is Getting Short

Closing date for Derby Sweepstake tickets, Monday, June 3rd. Applications to London Headquarters, please, in envelopes marked "Derby Competition."

The draw will be made at Headquarters on Thursday, June 6th, and holders of tickets drawing horses will be notified the following day.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ASHALL, Signalman D., 2nd S.T.C.
 ASHALL, Signalman F., Royal Corps of Signals.
 BAGSTAFF, Sergt. Cyril, Cambridge Regiment.
 BAILEY, Gunner A. D. (Ramsgate), Royal Artillery.
 BAKER, Arthur (Derby), R.A.F.
 BAKER, Albert (Derby), Northamptonshire Regiment.
 BAKER, A. P. (Chaddesden), Royal Air Force.
 BOOTLE, John, late H.M.S. *Barham*.
 BROGAN, Leading Aircraftman R., Royal Air Force.
 BURTENSHAW, L/Cpl. I. G., Coldstream Guards.
 CHAFER, H. C., Merchant Service.
 CLEVITT, Driver H. R., Royal Army Service Corps.
 COLLINS, Gunner H. (Jarrow), Royal Artillery.
 COONEY, Private H., Royal Sussex Regiment.
 DAVIS, Driver W. G., Royal Army Service Corps.
 DAWSON, Sapper G. W. (Newmarket).
 DOWSON, L/Cpl. Charles, Green Howards.
 DOWSON, Gunner Harry, Royal Artillery.
 DUNCAN, Private D., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 FISHWICK, Fusilier W., Royal Irish Fusiliers.
 FLEMING, J. F. C., A.M.P.E.
 FOSTER, Gunner R., Royal Artillery.
 FULLER, Private H. (Bedford), Beds. and Herts. Regiment.
 GREEN, Trooper George (Sheffield), Royal Tank Regiment.
 GRIFFIN, Gunner E., Anti-Aircraft Regt., R.A.
 GROGAN, Gunner H., Royal Artillery.
 GUNN, L/Cpl. I. D., Royal Army Service Corps.
 HAMLETT, Private C., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 HOWARTH, Trooper W.
 HURST, Private R. H. (Gt. Longstone).
 JACKSON, Private F. E. (New Malden), East Surrey Regiment.
 JOHNSON, Private A. J. (Derby), Militia.
 KENNEDY, Sapper A., Royal Engineers.
 KNIGHT, Cpl. Talbot, Royal Air Force.
 KNIGHT, Leading Aircraftman Ronald, Royal Air Force.
 LAST, Private E. E., Royal Army Medical Corps.
 LEE, Private J. H. (Durham).
 LOMAS, Gunner A., Royal Artillery.
 MCANDREW, 2nd Lieut. H. J., Royal Army Service Corps.
 MCQUIRK, Signaller P. J., Royal Corps of Signals.
 MECKIN, R., Royal Navy.
 MURPHY, Fusilier T., Royal Northumberland Fusiliers.
 NANCARROW, Private W. H., D.C.L.I.
 NICHOLLS, Signaller F. R., Div. Signals.
 PAYNE, Private E. G., Hertfordshire Regiment.
 PLUNKETT, G. R., A.T.S.
 ROBINSON, L. (son of A. Robinson, trainée), Royal Air Force.
 RODEN, Pilot T. G. V., Royal Air Force.
 SEPHTON, Gunner S.
 SHAYLER, A. B. George, S.S. *Ashanti*.
 SHURROCK, Gunner S. V.
 SIMMONS, A., S.D.R.A.A.
 SIM, W. G. (Aberdeen), H.M.S. *Jackal*.
 STRACHAN, P. W. L., Royal Air Force.
 STRAND, Gunner E. J.
 TOMLINSON, Staff-Sergt. F. C.
 TRIGGS, Private L. J., Infantry.
 WELTON, Gunner K., Royal Artillery.
 WELTON, A., S.S. *Clan Cameron*.
 YUILE, Private R., Seaforth Highlanders.

St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund

UP to the present, we have the names of 211 sons of St. Dunstan's men serving with the Forces, and by the time this REVIEW is published, we shall have sent out about 140 parcels.

From time to time parcels have been returned owing to a change of address, of which we have not been notified. We are anxious to avoid this for the sake of the Post Office—and parcels do not improve in travelling, however carefully they may be packed—so will you please let us know directly there is any change in your son's address.

Young St. Dunstaners

Betty Rogers, daughter of Mrs. Rogers and our late St. Dunstan, T. E. Rogers, of Kingsbridge, Devon, was married to Mr. W. M. Foxworthy on March 23rd, at West Alvington Church.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. T. Waldin's daughter, Jean, was married on Easter Monday to Mr. Christopher A. Norman, at the Chapel of St. Cross, Winchester.

★ ★ ★

Five of the sons of our late St. Dunstan, T. Watt, of Montrose, are serving with the Forces.

★ ★ ★

John Bootle, son of our late St. Dunstan, has been home on leave. He was saved from the torpedoed H.M.S. *Barham*.

His eldest sister, Marie, was married in January to Flight Sergeant T. G. Ross, who has made several flights over Germany.

★ ★ ★

Olive Cass, daughter of T. E. Cass, of West Hartlepool, married Mr. Cyril Naylor on March 25th.

★ ★ ★

Our good wishes to young William Healey, of Bradford, Manchester, who is boxing for the Amateur Fly-Weight Championship at the Pool Arena, Wembley, on May 23rd.

★ ★ ★

Marine W. H. Loram has been transferred from H.M.S. *Diomedé* to H.M.S. *Ceres*.

★ ★ ★

Privates A. H. Woodrow and F. E. Woodrow have both been promoted to the rank of Lance-Corporal.

Braille Magazines

THE "National Braille Times" is to be discontinued, and in its place there will be—as before the outbreak of war—two publications, the "National Braille Mail," giving the news of the week, and the "Braille Radio Times," giving the wireless programmes.

Will every reader of the "National Braille Times" let St. Dunstan's have a note of their requirements at the earliest possible moment, saying if they wish to have the "National Braille Mail" or the "Braille Radio Times," or both publications.

Owing to paper rationing, the National Institute for the Blind has to limit the number of copies of "World Digest."

This magazine is very popular among St. Dunstaners, and we should be glad to know of anyone who would be willing—when he has finished reading his copy—to send it to another reader.

This request does not apply to anyone who is already passing on the magazine to other readers.

Will any readers who can do this, please write to Miss Pain, at Ovingdean.

Important Notice

IN view of the increased postage rates, postcards will be used for brief communications, and acknowledgments will not be made of letters which do not call for a direct reply. Will men kindly note that receipts can be sent to us in an open envelope for a penny stamp. Receipts can always be returned in letters to Portland Place or Raglan Street, and it will be in order to hold them back for a short time so that they may be included in such letters.

Sir Ian back in the House Again

OUR Chairman took his seat in the House of Commons on Thursday, April 18th. He received a warm welcome from members of all parties when he went up to the table to sign his name and shake hands with Mr. Speaker. He has received many congratulations from friends in all parts of the world, including many ex-Service men.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Roberts, of Rhyl, April 24th; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Brett, of Aldershot, April 27th; and Mr. and Mrs. F. Aubrey, of Bristol, May 22nd.

Honour for New Zealand Masseur

DONALD MCPHEE, who has been practising massage in Auckland, New Zealand, for nearly twenty years, has been appointed by the Government as a member of the Physio-Therapy Advisory Committee to the Medical Committee in connection with the New Zealand Army Physio-Therapy Services. His friends will join with us in congratulating him upon this honour which has been conferred upon him.

Other News

E. P. Horan, of Dublin, won a first prize at the National Show recently with his Alsatian. She is not a guide dog, but Horan says she now realises that he is blind, and never lets him bump into anything while she is with him.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations to F. W. Matthews, of Soberton, who has been raised to the position of Knight Order of Merit in his Lodge of the Royal and Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes.

★ ★ ★

W. Ruddock, of Northallerton, who is one of our deaf St. Dunstaners, has just organised a most successful Dance in aid of the funds of St. Dunstan's, with the help of Mrs. Ruddock and some good friends in the neighbourhood. Ruddock also acted as M.C.

Competition Corner

The solution to last month's problem was as follows: The wise man added a camel of his own for the time being, making eighteen. He then gave one-half (9) to the eldest son, one-third (6) to the second son, and one-ninth (2) to the youngest son. He then took back his own camel.

A. McElligott, writing from the Ministry of Pensions Hospital, Chepstow, was the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, and the prize of 10s. 6d. has been sent to him.

Marriages

MCCARTE — PARRICK. — On Wednesday, April 10th, at Ovingdean Church, H. McCarte to Mrs. Parrick.

ROLT — MALLETT. — On April 19th, at Eaton Bray Parish Church, H. Rolt, late of Dunstable, to Miss E. M. Mallett.

Buying a Pup

by H. MARSDEN

I CAN vividly recall my first purchase of a pup. I had been brought up among dogs, chiefly spaniels and retrievers, but up to the age of eleven I had never owned one of the many that belonged to father. In those stern Victorian days I was not allowed to handle one of them, although at that early age I probably knew more about many breeds of dogs than did some grown-ups.

So at the age of eleven, as I have said before, I became the owner of my first pup.

In the village in which I lived—a village known all over the Midlands for its whippets, then used for rabbit-coursing—there resided a noted dog fancier who went by the name of "Darky George." As a dog trainer there was none better.

Reverting again to the pup, I met Darky George who, in advancing up the hill towards me, appeared to be making a series of contortions and back-heels at the bottom of a bag of straw which he carried on his back, the bottom of the bag almost touching the ground. When he got close up to me I at once preceived the cause of his antics. Hanging on to the bottom of the bag by its teeth was a white puppy, which refused to let go, in spite of the bumps George gave.

I stopped, and so did George, wiping the sweat from his face with the words "Damn the pup." I laughed at the spectacle for, though George had stopped, the pup refused to loosen his hold on the bag. It appeared a matter of life and death to him.

Impulsively I said to George, "How much for the pup?" His reply was staggering, well knowing the quality of the dogs which passed through his hands. "Tha' can have the darned tyke for half-a-crown." I at once agreed, and proceeded to the bag and made to pick up the pup.

I was immediately bitten for that action by the tiny white tyke, who immediately fastened his tiny milk teeth in the bag again.

With very little effort, however, he was detached from his prey, but not without many snarls and vicious attempts to re-attack the bag. Finally, I managed to get it safely under one arm and, accompanied by George, set off home to settle his account. On the way, George informed me that I was now the owner of a reight darn good bull and terrier pup, which he had bought on his last trip to Staffordshire. It was well bred

and he would gamble that, when it was full grown, it would lick any dog its weight.

At that age "Jack," as I called him, was over 50lbs. in weight, and would much rather have a fight than his dinner. At the age of 18 months Jack was "red-hot," but I could do anything with him except stop him having a scrap when he met another dog. Later I learned that my one-time pup had been engaged in meeting all-comers in the "pit."

That was my first pup, a bull-terrier, and to-day, forty-five years after, I still own the same breed, two grand specimens, of the best blood in this country.

National Egg-Laying Test

Report for the seventh period of four weeks, March 26th to April 22nd, 1940

Position	Name	Test score value
1	Holmes, P. ...	606
2	Smith, Alan W. ...	595
3	Hill, R. E. ...	552
	Holmes, P. ...	552
5	Powell, G. ...	550
6	Jarvis, A. ...	537
7	McLaren, D. ...	535
8	Fisher, T. M. ...	523
9	Fisher, T. M. ...	505
10	Campbell, J. ...	448
11	McLaren, D. ...	435
12	Jackson, G. C. ...	424
13	Smith, Alan W. ...	421
14	Carpenter, E. H. ...	416
15	Chaffin, A. ...	407
16	Jarvis, A. ...	377
17	Woodcock, W. J. ...	375
18	Benning, A. ...	352
19	Jackson, G. C. ...	328
20	Watson-Brown, M. ...	274
21	Stamp, W. C. ...	255
22	Hammett, H. A. ...	223

The position of the birds in the National Laying Tests to the end of the seventh period are :—

P. Holmes	...	Total of 135	First
D. McLaren	...	" 122	Second
R. E. Hill	...	" 118	Third

Births

FITZPATRICK.—To the wife of B. Fitzpatrick, of Millom, on April 12th, a son.

HOLLAND.—To the wife of A. C. Holland, of Heswall, on May 6th, a daughter.

PETERS.—To the wife of W. Peters, of Liverpool, on March 23rd, a son—Leonard.

Death

JUDD.—We offer our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. W. Judd, of Hillingdon, whose three-weeks-old baby son died on May 13th.

Welfare Department Changes

Mr. T. E. Swain has taken over supervision of both the Northern and Southern Areas, and is accordingly Welfare Superintendent for the whole country. Mr. H. M. Day has been appointed Assistant Welfare Superintendent.

This change has taken place because Mr. Ottaway's services are required in connection with a survey that is being made of new occupations that may be followed by the war-blinded. This survey is being conducted in conjunction with the London School of Hygiene, on the recommendation of the Medical Research Council. The London School of Hygiene is a Department of London University whose special function is to make scientific studies of working conditions, and their officers accordingly have very considerable knowledge of industrial requirements.

Mr. T. C. Angus, D.F.C., D.Sc., has been appointed by the School to help in this inquiry, and Mr. Ottaway will devote practically the whole of his time to it. His long experience and knowledge of all the activities of St. Dunstaners over the past 22 years will be of the greatest value. Mr. Ottaway will continue to be a member of the Welfare Committee so that his advice may be fully available to Mr. Swain and Mr. Day.

Our Camouflage Netters

A WORD of praise to our gallant band of camouflage netters. They are all doing splendidly in spite of the fact that the time of training has been only five short days.

One hundred and sixteen men are now doing this work. They have been taken from all trades, but the majority are wool rug makers, the Government having taken over our balance of wool. One and all are making a big success of their war-time job. The work is terribly hard on the hands, but they grin cheerfully and put up with it. On an average, fifty nets are turned out in a week.

Miss Morris is in charge of the camouflage netting department at Brighton, in addition to her duties as Sister-in-Charge at Portland Place and, of course, as Sports Sister.

Miss F. M. Deane, well-known to all members of the Music Department, has recently married Mr. Alan Pilkington. Her new address is Dean Wood, Newbury, Berks.

6 Mile Walk

THE second Walk of the season, over a distance of 6 miles, was held on Saturday, April 20th.

Mr. Swain, who came from Brighton for the occasion, introduced Colonel Eric Ball to the competitors, and a little later Colonel Ball started them off.

Dr. E. Chittenden Bridges presented the prizes at Headquarters after the race.

RESULT:

Competitor	Actual Time	H'cap Time	H'cap Allowance	Position in H'cap
A Section				
A. Brown ...	53.52	53.52	Scratch	3
J. Jerome ...	56.8	52.23	3.45	1
W. T. Scott ...	60.8	55.23	4.45	5*
J. Triggs ...	60.29	54.59	5.30	4
T. Rouse ...	61.39	53.9	8.30	2
J. Coupland ...	63.41	56.26	7.15	7
R. H. Cook ...	67.3	55.33	11.30	6†
* Fastest Loser				

Who Says St. Dunstan's Men are Old?

Four of us were on Regent's Park lake the other evening when we got held up at the Dardanelles by some single scull boats. W. Robinson, stroke at 4, called out to one of them, "Where do you think you are bound for? Narvik?" Back came the stinging reply: "I've done my 'blue pencil' bit and it's time you did yours!"

This was our four: W. Robinson, J. Macfarlane, W. T. Scott, and H. Glendennan.

St. Dunstan's Bridge Club

THERE was a grand attendance for the first Bridge Drive of the season, held at Headquarters on Saturday afternoon, April 27th. We mustered eight tables, which included a contingent of four enthusiasts from Brighton. We owe our thanks to Mr. Field for conducting the proceedings. It was a partner drive, and the winning pair was F. Winter and A. Ozanne, the second pair being J. Hughes and A. J. Waller. The mystery prize was won by H. Gover and Mrs. Gover.

H. G.

For Sale

DOUBLE LADIES' TANDEM.—Good condition for road. Carriage paid to purchaser's address. £3 10s. Enquiries:—H. Ollington, 351 Garratt Lane, S.W.18.

“ In Memory ”

LANCE-CORPORAL LAWRENCE BOWLES
(8th South Lancashire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of L. Bowles, of Liverpool.

Bowles was wounded at Albert la Boissel, in July, 1916, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in September, 1916. Before he joined the Army, however, Bowles was a sea-faring man.

He was trained as a mat-maker, at which occupation he worked for many years, but latterly, owing to ill-health, he was unable to do very much work of any kind. After several severe attacks of chest and heart trouble, he died in the Liverpool Hospital on March 25th.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades was sent from London. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and family of five children.

PRIVATE JOHN HEAPY
(Coldstream Guards)

With deep regret we record the death of J. Heapy, of Heywood, Lancs.

Heapy was wounded at Cambrai in November, 1917, and admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He was trained as a mat-maker, but for a number of years has not been able to follow any occupation on account of ill-health. He suffered considerably, and after much hospital treatment he came down to our Home at Ovingdean. He was later transferred to the Sussex County Hospital, but returned to the Home a short time before his death, which occurred on March 31st, 1940. He was buried at Brighton, and a wreath from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades was sent. We extend our sincere sympathy to his wife and four children.

PRIVATE JAMES DALE
(Royal Fusiliers)

With deep regret we record the death of J. Dale, of Stoke-on-Trent.

Dale did not come under the care of St. Dunstan's until March, 1933. He had sustained very severe head wounds, and was additionally handicapped by deafness and the loss of his left hand. He was never able to take any serious training, as he was practically bed-ridden, but he learned wool rug-making and Braille at home, and took a keen interest in both subjects, in spite of his great suffering.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades, and we extend our sincerest sympathy to his wife and family.

PRIVATE JAMES PERCIVAL
(Royal Defence Corps)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of one of our oldest St. Dunstaners, J. Percival, of Salford, Manchester. Percival died on March 27th at the age of 74.

Before he enlisted in 1914, he had already served for eight years in the Army, enlisting in 1883. His final discharge came on January 11th, 1918.

He came under the care of St. Dunstan's in May, 1924. He was not able, on account of his age, to attempt any kind of heavy work, but was trained in light basket-making. He has been able to do very little for a considerable period, but he visited Brighton from time to time.

A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent. We extend our deep sympathy to his wife and family.

STOKER ALBERT JOHN HEAD
(Royal Navy)

We deeply regret to announce the death of A. J. Head, of Brixton Combe.

Head was serving in the Navy in 1914, and the hardships and exposures he suffered led to blindness and the complete breakdown of his health. He came to us some time afterwards for training in boot repairing and poultry keeping, and he worked at the latter occupation until the time of his death. Head's health had not been too good of late years, but his death on April 4th came as a great shock to his relatives and friends, as it occurred after only a few days' illness.

The funeral took place shortly after, and was arranged with the help of the local branch of the British Legion, for whose assistance Mrs. Head is most grateful. Many relatives and friends attended the funeral service, and there were a large number of wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We send our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Head and her family.

PETTY OFFICER ALBERT C. E. MATTHEWS
(Royal Navy)

We deeply regret to record the death of A. C. E. Matthews, of Dover.

During the war, Matthews served in the Submarines and he suffered severe hardships, as a result of which his sight became affected and he was admitted to St. Dunstan's benefits in 1927.

He was trained in basket-making, and worked at this occupation up to the time of his death, which took place suddenly on March 22nd. The funeral was carried out a few days afterwards at Buckland Churchyard, and was attended by many relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. and Mrs. A. Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stevens, two St. Dunstan's comrades and their wives. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and there were many wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Matthews and her daughter.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 264—VOLUME XXIV [NEW SERIES]

JUNE, 1940

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

“Digging for Victory”

MANY of our readers who have enjoyed such good times at the St. Dunstan's camp at Little Gaddesden will remember Miss Bridget Talbot, who did so much to help them. In a letter to *The Times* recently, she suggested the setting up of communal allotments throughout the country. A piece of waste ground near a factory or town should be taken, and all who can lend a hand should “dig for victory.” At the end of the season, she suggests the produce or the profits should be divided in accordance with the number of hours worked by each partner in the enterprise.

In the course of her letter, Miss Talbot, encouraging all to dig, says: “All can help—even the old and blind. (A St. Dunstan's man near here has recently dug and planted, unaided, a large area of potatoes).”

I am sure there are many St. Dunstaners who have increased their farming or gardening operations recently. It will be a great shock to poultry farmers to learn that there will be less feeding stuffs available this autumn and winter, and it may cause considerable hardship. Some months ago I made a representation to the then Minister of Agriculture, which secured his help in getting more food for our poultry farmers, and I hope we shall continue to get fair and favourable treatment, but I am afraid there will have to be a considerable cutting down of flocks. The plain fact is that the cutting-off of supplies of all kinds from Northern Europe means that our ships have got to go journeys ten or even a hundred times longer to fetch the things that we need, and this, coupled with the necessity to import munitions, food, and raw materials for our export industries means the most severe shortage of shipping. In addition, we shall probably be faced shortly with an intense submarine campaign from the Channel ports.

I met the present Minister of Agriculture the other day, and he told me that unless farmers save all the feeding stuffs they can during the next few months, and unless pigs and poultry are cut down, there is a very great risk that there will not be enough feeding stuffs for our milk herds this winter. It is better that we should face the facts, whatever the hardship, than be cut short in the winter, and have famine or siege conditions. Needless to say, St. Dunstan's will do what it can to help any poultry farmers who are badly hit.

Reverting to Miss Talbot's remark about a St. Dunstaner's digging, I know of another St. Dunstaner, J. R. McGill, who used to be a farmer in New Zealand, and then came home to live in retirement in Scotland, who has gone back to the land. He has obtained a job on a stock farm as an agricultural labourer, and I am told does a full day's work, milking cows, and helping in a variety of ways. There may be a good number of St. Dunstaners who might lend a hand at a local farm, or might even get a job for as everyone knows, there is an acute shortage of labour on the land at present.

The British Legion

Some months ago I mentioned in the REVIEW that we had entered into an arrangement with the Legion to give us 10 per cent. of Poppy Day, in view of our new war commitments. For reasons beyond my control, this statement proved afterwards to be a little premature, but I am happy to say now that at the Annual Conference of the British Legion at Whitsun a resolution was passed authorising the National Executive to enter into an agreement with us in which we shall continue to receive the same allocation from Poppy Day, namely £15,000, or 4 per cent., whichever is the less, each year for the next ten years, as we have been receiving in the past ten years. In addition, we shall receive a graduated payment to help us meet the cost of new blinded ex-Service men, and this allocation can increase until the total received by St. Dunstan's equals 10 per cent. of Poppy Day, or other British Legion Flag Days.

I believe all St. Dunstaners will be glad that we and the Legion propose to work together in this way instead of competing with each other for street collections. St. Dunstan's undertakes not to organise competing collections for three weeks before Poppy Day, and the Legion undertakes not to hold house-to-house collections, otherwise both bodies are free to collect in any other way they please. The allocations we will receive from the Legion represent, of course, only a small part of our necessary income, and are intended merely to compensate us for not having our own Flag Day.

New St. Dunstaners

There are now twenty-three new cases in the Hospital wards at the Brighton Home; several of these cases will regain a degree of useful sight, some have already left us with good vision. Operations can be performed nowadays which were not possible twenty-five years ago. Others, I fear, will not regain their sight, and there are already a number in the Hospital who know that they will not see again. We are, of course, doing everything possible to help them in their new surroundings, and we have the great advantage of twenty-five years' experience to help us.

I am glad to place on record my sincere thanks to many old St. Dunstaners who have been in the Home of recent weeks, and who have gone out of their way to welcome and cheer and comfort these new lads.

The Matron

I regret to have to say that Miss Boyd Rochfort has had to undergo another operation, but she is going on as well as can be expected. St. Dunstaners are asked not to write to her, as it is better for her to be as quiet as possible for the time being. We all wish her the very best of luck.

IAN FRASER.

"Digger" Scrymgeour

THE Editor of the REVIEW acknowledges with thanks a copy of the Anzac Commemoration Number of "Reveille," the official journal of the N.S.W. Branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A. The number has a special reference to St. Dunstan's in the form of an article about "Digger" Jim Scrymgeour, a Queensland St. Dunstaner.

He came along to the Great War with the 2nd Light Horse Regt., to Palestine. Losing his sight, he became a cot case back to Brisbane, but in 1919 he came to St. Dunstan's for a time. He will be remembered by many old St. Dunstaners for his breezy and irrepressible good spirits and social companionship.

Bridge Items

A TEAM from the Standard Telephone Company visited St. Dunstan's Headquarters on May 22nd, and played an eight-a-side match.

Our No. 1 team won by 800 and No. 2 team lost only by 40 points, thus giving a victory to St. Dunstan's for the match, with a total of 760.

The Club held its second Bridge Drive on Saturday, June 8th.

The winners were Mr. and Mrs. Toft and Mr. and Mrs. Graves, whilst the Parity Score prize went to A. Waite and Mrs. Cohen.

A raffle at this function, on behalf of the Comforts Fund, realised a sum of one guinea.

Result of Derby Sweepstake

THE draw for the Derby Sweepstake took place in the Lounge, at Headquarters, on June 6th. The draw was made by R. Picock, of Eastlake, near Loughborough, and H. T. Mummery, of Saffron Walden, and was observed and checked by Miss Goole (Private Secretary to the Chairman), Mr. J. E. Rose (Publicity Officer), Mr. Burgess, and other members of the staff.

The number of tickets sold was 872, compared with 1,295 last year, and after the printing and postage expenses had been deducted a sum of £103 was left for distribution, in accordance with the printed rules.

The result was as follows :—

First—Pont L'Eveque

A. H. Luker, Wootton, Boars Hill, £51 10s. (50%)
near Oxford (Ticket No. 400)

Second—Turkhan

A. Sutton, Madeley, Crewe ... £20 12s. (20%)
(Ticket No. 375)

Third—Lighthouse II

H. Wignell, Market Harborough £10 6s. (10%)
(Ticket No. 681)

The holders of tickets drawing runners in the race numbered 13, and they received £1 11s. 8d. each. They were : Black Toni (86), A. S. Dolby, Palmers Green ; Golden Tiger (630), J. R. Brown, Nuneaton ; Hippius (183), C. Brooks, Chill Mill, Brencchley ; King of Trumps II (180), Vere Jones, Lostock Graham, Northwich ; Moradabad (23), Peter T. Maskell, Rochester ; Olidon (559), G. B. Swanston, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire ; Pharatis (305), C. Molloy, Ryhl, North Wales ; Paques (679), J. Gimber, Desborough, Kettering ; Ridley (201), A. W. Wernham, Bracknell, Herts ; Romulus (484), Amos Robinson, Tottenham ; Stardust (483), Amos Robinson, Tottenham ; Solway Firth (766), R. E. Hill, Tideswell, near Buxton ; Tant Micux (583), J. Brockerton, Coleraine, co. Derry.

Cavalry King (493), Capt. R. W. H. Callaghan, Blackheath ; Dinshaw (790), T. Allen, South Hetton, Durham ; War Lord (759), D. Fenton, Ilford ; Djebel (873), A. Peckham, North Wembley ; Indian Love (457), R. Young, Tweedmouth, Berwick-on-Tweed ; Indian Chief (59), R. Riddell, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire ; and Fuane (236), E. L. Woods, Malmesbury, did not start, and J. Bruce, of Huntingdon (68) drew "the field."

Wedding Bells

WHITEHEAD-GUEST—OVERHILL

WEDDING bells were rung at Holy Trinity Church, Charlton, on Saturday, June 1st, when Grace, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Overill, of Charlton, was married to Lance-Corporal Robert A. J. Whitehead-Guest, son of the late Sergt. Robert Guest (R.A.), who was killed in action in March, 1918.

The bride was given away by her father, who, blinded in the Great War, was trained at St. Dunstan's.

After a reception the newly-married pair left for a honeymoon in Dorsetshire.

A Proud Record

Five Serving—Sixth Registered

MRS. WATT, the widow of that very fine old St. Dunstaner, the late Sergeant William Watt, of Montrose, is a very proud woman. She has five sons serving in the Forces and the sixth has registered and is expecting to be called up shortly.

Several of them are serving in their late father's old Regiment, the Cameron Highlanders. Watt himself was a campaigner of the fine old type. He was in the Egyptian Campaign and the South African War, and re-enlisted in his old Regiment in 1914. Unfortunately, he was blinded in November, 1915, and entered St. Dunstan's when discharged from hospital in 1916. He first trained as a poultry farmer and a mat-maker, but of late years he has done only a little rug work. Watt was a great character. He was a fine re-unionist and will be remembered especially for his recitations, and particularly his renderings of Burns' poetry. Lord Kitchener was once among the audience he recited to. His end came suddenly only last year. He was on holiday at Cardiff when he was taken ill, was taken to hospital, and thence home, where he died in January.

We extend heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Watt on the proud record of her stalwart "half-dozen" warriors, and wish them all a safe return.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations to Sapper S. A. Cole, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Cole, of 115 Severn Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, upon his marriage on May 18th to Amy Winifred Stallard. Also upon his safe return recently from Norway.

★ ★ ★

We congratulate Kenneth, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Bowring, of Weymouth, on having recently passed his Artificer's Examination. He is now in the Royal Navy and we wish him the best of luck.

Marriages

COLE—STALLARD.—On Saturday, May 18th, at Birmingham, S. A. Cole to Amy Winifred Stallard.

HAYCOCK—FULLER.—On May 25th, at Bedford, W. E. Haycock to D. Fuller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Fuller, of Bedford.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ASHALL, Signaller F. (Lancs.), R.C.S.
 ASHALL, Signaller D. (Lancs.), 2nd S.T.C.
 BAILEY, Gunner A. D. (Ramsgate), 115 Heavy Battery, R.A.
 BLYDE, Gunner A. (London), Anti Tank Regt.
 BOOTLE, J. H. (London), H.M.S. *Barham*.
 BOWRING, Artificer K. (Weymouth), R.N.
 BURRAN, Colin (London), R.A.F.
 BURTENSHAW, I. J., Recruit (Walthamstow), Grenadier Guards.
 CAREY, Pte. D. (Tottenham), Royal Fusiliers.
 CAREY, Pte. F. (Tottenham), A.A. Batt., R.E.
 COLE, Sapper S. A. (Birmingham), R.A.
 COLE, Gunner L. (Birmingham), R.A.
 DANCE, Private E. S. (Bishops Stortford), Herts Regt.
 DOWSON, L.Cpl. C. F. (Middlesborough), Green Howards.
 DOWSON, Gunner H. R. (Middlesborough), R.A., A.A.
 FISHWICK, Fusilier W. S. (Lancs.), Royal Irish Fusiliers.
 FULLER, Pte. H. (Bedford), Beds. and Herts Regt.
 GREEN, Trooper G. (Sheffield), Royal Tank Regt.
 GREEN, H. (Sunderland), R.A.F.
 GRIFFIN, Gunner E. (Enfield), R.A., A.A.
 HICKS, Gunner A. L. (New Southgate), R.A.
 HURST, Private R. H. (Derbyshire).
 IRELAND, Gunner J. R., R.A.
 JACKSON, Private F. E. (New Malden), E. Surrey Regt.
 LOMAS, Gunner A. (Burnley).
 MILLARD, Private T. (New Tredegar), M.T.B., R.A.S.C.
 MUMMERY, C.S.M. A. H. (Saffron Walden), Essex Regt.
 MUMMERY, P. S. M. (Saffron Walden), Essex Regt.
 NANCARROW, Private W. H. (Newquay), Dominica Squad.
 NEW, Private C. T. (Wolverhampton), I.T.C.
 PINNER, Marine A. H. (Peasedown, Bath), R.M.A.A.
 QUIN, M. (Brighton), Parachute Section, R.A.F.
 TATTON, E., Jnr. (Gloucester), H.M.S. *Drake*.
 TEBBUTT, Gunner G. (Nottingham), A.A., R.A.
 TEBBUTT, Gunner A. W. (Nottingham), R.H.A.
 TRIGGS, L. J. (Ashford), Infantry.
 WISHART, Marine J. E. (South Moor, Durham), H.M.S. *Hood*.
 WOOD, Fusilier S. (Putney), Royal Fusiliers.
 YOUNG, Gunner W. E. (Rochampton), Medium and Heavy Regt., R.A.

Sir Ian Fraser, M.P. for Lonsdale, visited the Kirby Lonsdale branch of the British Legion when in his constituency last week. Sir Ian said how pleased he was to see old soldiers, and that he would always do his best for them.

St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund

THE number of Sons of St. Dunstaners who are with the Forces increases each month. In the last REVIEW, 211 sons were serving; this month's list brings that total to over 250.

We are sending parcels of comforts or gifts to them. The gifts are not all actually parcels. Sometimes Postal Orders are sent to meet particular cases. Approximately 130 gifts, either in kind or money, have been sent from our Comforts Fund during the past month.

Owing to the general Troop movement that has taken place in the last few weeks, many of the addresses of the sons serving in the Army must necessarily be out of date. Please let us know the new address.

Other News

F. S. Wardle, of Cudworth, who, although an Englishman, enlisted with the Australian Imperial Forces and was blinded in 1915, mentioned a few days ago that his great grandfather served as a Midshipman under Nelson, on the *Victory*. The epic of Dunkirk proves that the spirit of Nelson is alive to-day.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. M. Carey, of Tottenham, have two sons serving with the Forces, Private D. Carey, Royal Fusiliers, and Private F. Carey, Royal Engineers.

★ ★ ★

Mr. A. Tebbutt, of Nottingham, also has two sons with the Forces—Gunner G. Tebbutt, A.A., R.A., and Gunner A. W. Tebbutt, R.H.A.

★ ★ ★

Our good wishes and congratulations to Bertie Cole, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cole, of Appledore, on having passed his Third Class Certificate of Education. He has now been moved to Chatham. Billy Cole, too, is home for a short leave.

★ ★ ★

Mrs. H. Ashworth, wife of F. Ashworth, of Gorleston-on-Sea, in spite of indifferent health, has joined the local Committee of the Women's Voluntary Services for Civil Defence, and is making herself useful in the clerical branch.

St. Dunstan's Sports

General Meeting Cancelled

We are asked to announce that, owing to the war, it has reluctantly been decided to cancel the St. Dunstan's General Sports Meeting, which had been arranged for Saturday, June 22nd.

The Regatta, 1940

THE Annual Regatta will take place on July 10th, at 1.15 p.m. Owing to conditions to-day the programme will be of a modified nature, and will depend entirely upon the number of entries received.

Below is a list of events. Please send along your entries to the Sports Office as early as possible to enable us to get the programme arranged. The latest date for accepting entries will be Monday, July 1st. No competitor may enter for more than two events. In all events, prizes will be awarded according to the number of entries.

The proposed programme will be as follows :—

Single Sculls (Sections A and B).

Double Sculls (at least one Section B man in each boat).

Pair Oars (at least one Section B man in each boat).

One-Armed Pair Oars.

Single Sculls, for Veterans, 45 years and over. (Events for both Sections if numbers permit).

Single Sculls, for totally deaf St. Dunstaners (Sections A and B combined).

Open Fours—The President's Challenge Cup, presented by Lady (Arthur) Pearson, D.B.E.

There will be no Shield events this year, nor will the Annual Dinner be held at Connaught Rooms. Supper will be served in the Lounge at Headquarters, at 7 p.m.

Sir Ian Fraser, M.P., was the principal speaker at a recent gathering at Stone Cross, Ulverston, Cumberland, the residence of Mrs. Myles Kennedy, who had thrown her beautifully-kept gardens open with the object of aiding the local Soldiers' Comforts Fund.

National Egg Laying Test

Report for the Eighth Period of Four Weeks, 23rd April to 20th May, 1940

Position	Name	Test Score	Value
1	P. Holmes ...	...	733
2	W. Alan Smith ...	...	684
3	P. Holmes ...	...	678
4	D. McLaren ...	...	647
5	A. Jarvis ...	...	646
6	G. Powell ...	...	640
7	T. M. Fisher ...	...	633
8	T. M. Fisher ...	...	632
9	R. E. Hill ...	...	629
10	E. H. Carpenter ...	...	530
11	D. McLaren ...	...	529
12	J. Campbell ...	...	524
13	G. C. Jackson ...	...	517
14	A. Chaffin ...	...	508
15	W. Alan Smith ...	...	490
16	W. J. Woodcock ...	...	464
17	A. Jarvis ...	...	454
18	G. C. Jackson ...	...	410
19	A. Benning ...	...	356
20	M. Watson-Brown ...	...	308
21	W. C. Stamp ...	...	273
22	H. A. Hammett ...	...	258

"Too Crafty for Jerry"

MANY sons of St. Dunstaners were involved in the Evacuation of Flanders, that epic of military history that has thrilled the world and has non-plussed Hitler. We congratulate those who were able to get away on their safe return.

Mrs. E. J. Laker, of Haverhill, Suffolk, has received a letter from her son, Gunner L. J. Laker, of the R.A., announcing his safe arrival home. "All my son says about the Hell" she writes, is "I am not to worry, he was all right. He was too crafty for 'Jerry' and they will get what they deserve next time they go out. What a spirit the dear boys have!"

"Reported Missing"

Our sympathies go out to J. "Tiny" Fleming, of Wembley, on his natural anxiety over the whereabouts of his son, Driver James F. C. Fleming, of the R.A.S.C., who is "Reported Missing" since May 26th. Driver Fleming was on the Flanders front.

Distemper Teeth

By H. MARSDEN

DISTEMPER teeth are not very common, although by no means rare amongst pedigree dogs, which, in this early career have had a very bad attack of distemper.

In the recently-noted case of a dog with teeth of the above description, no doubt the hound concerned had a stiff struggle against the disease, so severe being the attack that the permanent teeth became eroded in patches, or the whole of the enamel stripped off. The weaker the constitution of the dog, the greater the danger that the whole of the permanent teeth may be so affected.

This condition of teeth is not a fault, it is not hereditary, and it is not transmittable. I have in mind a bull terrier, bred by Hinks. The dog is five years old, but when a youngster he had to be nursed as much as a baby. Careful nursing and patience brought him round. But the disease attacked his teeth, and although a really good "old 'un" in type, he has never got first, second, or third, much to the disappointment of his sporty owner. Because the dog has had the misfortune to lose the enamel in patches from his teeth he is condemned.

But here is the point: Should a dog be condemned on such teeth? The teeth are only part of the head, and the head is not the whole dog. Any judge, if ignorant of the cause of such teeth, could have judged the hound in question "for" and "against," with all due respect to the dog and the owner, and have given the latter a sporting run for his entry fee. Dismissing an exhibit from the ring must have been done in absolute ignorance of the true facts. To my mind, when a dog is in the ring and his number is up, he is there to be judged to the best of the judges' ability, and the owner will be satisfied if he gets such treatment, but it is pretty certain that he won't be if he gets the treatment that was meted out at a recent show, because he will go home no doubt thinking that teeth make a dog, but quite erroneously, because distemper teeth are not scheduled as a qualification or fault. If the judge in question acted in ignorance, let him closely study and handle distemper cases amongst his own and other people's dogs.

Brown Bread and Marmalade!

A St. Dunstaner, who signs himself "Glaswegian," has contributed the following lines, as an expression, in rhyme, of the enjoyment of his visit to the Home at Ovingdean.

He excuses the effort as the result of "the Brighton breezes, or else this glorious sun of Sussex," and adds a PS. to his note that "I think the new Home is absolutely IT."

Cupboard Love

Dedicated, with humble apologies, to "My Lady of the Jam Pot."

*Dear Sister, e're I pack my case and take my
homeward way,
I thank you for the kindness you have shown to
me each day,
Your word of cheer your guiding hand, your
unseen, charming smile,
Are as the precious jewels which have made my
stay worth while.
You did not chide when, once or twice, for
breakfast I was late,
But punished me by putting three huge helpings
on my plate,
And then, to cap a hearty meal, you artful,
knowing jade,
You served me with brown bread and most
delicious marmalade.
Oh! I would be, as Gilbert says, "A saintly
man to please,"
If not completely satisfied with dinners, suppers,
teas;
And when to Ovingdean I come again (if I am
able)
I hope 'twill be my luck to find the same seat at
your table.
'Tis all too little I can do to show my gratitude,
But here's a box of Birrell's "chocs"—I bet
you'll find them good,
For Birrell's lovely chocolates put Terry's in
the shade,
And taste as delectable as brown bread and
marmalade.
So when I'm back in Glasgow and my thoughts
take Fancy's flight,
I'll think of you, dear Sister, for you are my
heart's delight,
I'll live again these happy days, recall the friends
I've made,
But most of all I think of that brown bread and
marmalade. Amen!*

The Joinery Department

Mr. E. E. George's Appointment

SINCE the last issue of the REVIEW, the appointment has been made of a successor to our late friend, E. Hope Atkinson, who was Chief Joinery Instructor from the inauguration of the Joinery Department.

The Chairman, in a letter to all joiners announcing the appointment, writes :

"My first thought when considering the question of appointing a successor to our late friend, Mr. E. Hope Atkinson, was whether one of his pupils could take his place, and I was glad to receive letters from two St. Dunstaners, who were for some time pupils' teachers in the Joinery Shop.

"You will know, however, that we had to consider other things than visiting and instructing the men, as Mr. Atkinson was responsible for the whole of the work of the Joinery Department. I therefore felt that, in the interests of St. Dunstan's men, we should advertise the appointment and interview other candidates. This has been done, and we came to the conclusion that we could not do better than appoint Mr. E. E. George, who has, for nearly eight years, been employed in the Joinery Department at Raglan Street. He has had a life-long experience of the trade, which he has followed continuously with the exception of the period when he served in the Great War. His personal contact with Mr. Atkinson, and the fact that even before he joined our staff he made up some of the jigs which are so helpful, gives him special knowledge. He has also met a large number of the men, and I am confident that he will be able to give St. Dunstan's joiners just the help they need."

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to :

Mr. and Mrs. A. GROGAN, of East End Park, Leeds, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on June 5th.

Mr. and Mrs. H. FINKLE, of Sunderland, whose Silver Anniversary of their wedding falls on June 25th.

Mr. and Mrs. MURPHY, of Hamilton Hill, Glasgow, who celebrated their Silver Wedding on June 15th.

Nine Mile Walk

Regent's Park, May 18th

THE Annual Nine Miles Walk took place on Saturday, May 18th, at Regent's Park. It was a glorious afternoon, and although the number of entrants was slightly smaller than in the previous year, there was no lack of enthusiasm among the spectators. The start and finish were at St. Dunstan's headquarters, Inner Circle. It is gratifying to find that these occasions are always graced by the presence of representative members of St. Dunstan's. Among those present on this occasion were Miss M. Hamar Greenwood and Col. R. E. Bickerton, the Hon. Secretary of the Medical Advisory Committee, who started the competitors on their "circular tour." The route was three times round the Outer Circle of Regent's Park.

Mr. F. Donoghue again kindly acted as handicapper, Mr. C. R. Butcher, R.W.A., as timekeeper, and Mr. L. Warwick as judge. Our grateful thanks are due to the members of the Police and the Metropolitan Walking Clubs who again supplied the escorts.

Archie Brown maintained his unbroken record in the St. Dunstan's walks in making the quickest time, 84.44, from scratch.

Appended are the times and handicaps :

Competitor	Actual Time	H'cap Time	H'cap Allowance	Position in H'cap
A. Brown ...	84.44	84.44	Scratch	4
J. Jerome ...	85.44	83.29	2.15	2
T. ap Rhys ...	90.6	85.21	4.45	5
T. Rouse ...	93.15	84.0	9.15	3
J. Triggs ...	99.53	91.8	8.45	6
W. C. Scott ...	101.13	82.28	18.45	1

Deaths

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to :—

R WHITE, 35 Chaplin Road, Wembley, Middlesex, on the death of his wife, on May 19th.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Ross, on the death of their eighteen-months-old daughter.

MOORE.—We deeply sympathise with Mr. W. Moore, of 26 Derby Road, Southport, in the death, on June 8th, of his daughter Winifred, after an illness, from pneumonia.

Mr. J. MULLEN, of Blayden-on-Tyne, on the death of his wife, on June 4th, after a long and painful illness.

The Spring Song of the Birds

By A BIRD-LOVER

I WONDER how many St. Dunstaners have discovered the pleasure of listening to the singing of the wild birds. It has been a delight to me each Spring to keep my ears open for the first notes of the various species with which I am familiar. Nothing adds more interest to a walk abroad than to be greeted here and there by a well-known and well-beloved voice. Indeed, I often conduct a little competition with myself by counting up the number of different species I can recognise during successive walks with my dog.

This year I have heard very few Missel Thrushes—perhaps because of the severe winter. They begin to sing early. I always associate those early migrants, the Chiff-Chaff and the Willow Warbler, and expect to hear them about the same time.

This year I heard the Chiff-Chaff for

the first time on March 23rd, but the Willow Warbler was silent until April 21st. I wonder how that happened? Curiously enough, I have often noticed that one hears nothing of the Willow Warbler until a certain day when one hears them in all directions. It almost seems as if they had chosen a special day on which to begin their spring song. I first heard the Tree Pipit this season on April 23rd, and was thrilled by its delightful notes. I mention these dates in case there are any other enthusiasts who might like to compare notes, so to speak.

You may say, "But how can I begin this innocent pursuit?" I am afraid you will need the help of a bird-lover, with plenty of patience, before you will learn how to distinguish the varied voices of the Spring. But I hope these few remarks will be enough to suggest how worth while it is to take a little trouble in this matter.

S.A.C.

"In Memory"

PRIVATE JOHN SEYMOUR HEWER

(Gloucestershire Regiment)

WE record with regret the death of Private John S. Hewer, of Over Hospital, Gloucester.

Hewer was a new St. Dunstaner, whose vision did not fail completely until recently. Unfortunately, his health was such that he was unable to come to us, and remained at the Star and Garter Home. At the outbreak of this war he was transferred to Gifford House, Worthing, and a few weeks before his death he applied to be moved to his home town of Gloucester. This was done, and so he spent his last days in the county he knew and loved so well.

Hewer's death took place quite suddenly on the 23rd May, and the funeral was carried out a few days later. This was attended by many relatives and friends, the latter including Mr. and Mrs. A. Bundy, a St. Dunstaner comrade and his wife. Among the many wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his friends at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Hewer's son and daughter.

CORPORAL WILLIAM RADLEY

(Chinese Labour Corps)

WE regret to have to report the death of W. Radley, who was one of our older men—born in 1868.

William Radley was an old soldier. He took part in the Relief of Chitral in 1895; he re-enlisted in 1914, and served as a corporal in the Chinese Labour Corps. He was gassed and blown-up, but did not come under our care until 1925.

He never enjoyed very good health, but was trained in wool rug-work, in which hobby he took a great interest to within a short time of his death.

He had been ill for a long period, but nevertheless his death, which took place at his home on May 13th, was unexpected.

A wreath was sent from Brighton, and one of our St. Dunstaners, J. H. Greaves, of Oldham, attended the funeral.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and three children.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 265—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

JULY, 1940

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

Our Difficulties: How We Are Meeting Them

ON July 10th I wrote a letter to all St. Dunstaners in the United Kingdom. I feel sure Overseas St. Dunstaners will be interested to read it for it shows them some of the difficulties we are having to meet with here in the old country, and how we are overcoming them. I hope also it will be of use to St. Dunstaners here to have the letter in print for reference.

This is what I said:—

Dear St. Dunstaner,

Owing to the changes in the character of the war, St. Dunstan's has had to make certain new arrangements.

The building at Ovingdean, Brighton, will remain St. Dunstan's Hospital for serious eye or head injuries requiring operative treatment arising out of the present war, or for old St. Dunstaners suffering from similar conditions.

The training of blinded soldiers has been moved to a moderate-sized Hotel, which we have taken, called The Longmynd Hotel, Church Stretton, Shropshire. Great War St. Dunstaners who have only recently gone blind, and the convalescent casualties from the new war, have been moved there. These include some who have been totally blinded in the recent fighting, some who have been temporarily or partially blinded, and others who are recovering.

The bed-ridden and similar cases who lived permanently at Ovingdean have been transferred to a small, quiet country house, called Melplash Court, Nr. Beaminster, Dorset.

A small Hotel has been taken in Blackpool, called the Concord Hotel, 1 Wimbourne Crescent, South Shore, Blackpool, for a convalescent home.

An office has been opened at Blackpool, from which the whole of the After-Care Services for St. Dunstaners who live in the Midlands and the North will be conducted.

(To St. Dunstaners in the Midlands and the North: From now on you should write to Mr. Swain or Miss Wilson, at 556 Lytham Road, South Shore, Blackpool, about all welfare matters, and all children's and other allowances, payments and communications about welfare matters will come to you from Blackpool).

The Brighton Office, at Portland Place, Kemp Town, Brighton, will remain open, and Mr. Askew will attend to all official and general matters from there. Mr. H. M. Day and Mrs. Paul will remain at Brighton in charge of all welfare matters for those in the South.

(To St. Dunstaners in the Southern Area: You should continue to address all communications to Mr. Day and Mrs. Paul, at Brighton, as before, about all welfare matters, and all children's and other allowances, payments and communications about welfare matters will continue to come to you from Brighton.)

The Massage, Poultry Farm, and Estate Offices will all remain at Brighton.

The Chairman's Office and the Appeals Office remain in London, at Regent's Park, and I shall continue to work from there. Raglan Street will continue to function as usual.

The reason for these changes is obvious enough. We do not know what turn the war may take, and we want to be prepared for everything, and I am particularly anxious to keep in touch with all St. Dunstaners throughout the country in all circumstances.

My advice to all St. Dunstaners is: Carry on with a stout heart and set a good example, as you always have done. And if you get into any trouble let us know and we will do all we can to help you.

The best of luck,

Yours sincerely,

IAN FRASER, *Chairman.*

St. Dunstan's and Newington House

St. Dunstan's, London, and Newington House, Edinburgh, have entered into an agreement to work together in this war.

St. Dunstan's has looked after practically all the men of the Home and Dominion Forces who were blinded in the Great War and about half the Scotsmen. The other Scotsmen went to Newington House, Edinburgh, in the main because they lived in or near Edinburgh and wished to be near their folk at the time when they were blinded. St. Dunstan's and Newington House have both appealed for funds in Scotland, and from time to time this has led to overlapping and waste of effort. Our appeals have also clashed to some extent in the Overseas Colonies.

With the advent of a new war it seemed desirable to come to some better arrangement. As the head of the greater of the two organisations, I opened up negotiations and these have now led to a very happy and successful conclusion. The points of the arrangement are as follows:—

1. Scottish St. Dunstaners who live in Scotland will remain members of St. Dunstan's, and no change whatever will be made in their position. Newington House men will remain under the care of Newington House.

2. St. Dunstan's and Newington House will issue a joint appeal instead of competing appeals, and the monies arising will be divided according to the responsibilities of the two organisations.

3. All soldiers, sailors and airmen of all the Home and Dominion Forces who may be blinded in this war will go to St. Dunstan's Hospital for surgical and medical treatment, and to learn to be blind during their early days. But as soon as they are fit enough for serious training, the Scotsmen who intend to live in Scotland will go to Newington House for training, and those from England and Wales and the Dominions will pass from the Hospital side of St. Dunstan's into the Training Establishment.

I think that this arrangement safeguards the independence and tradition of the two places, safeguards the interests of the veteran Scottish St. Dunstaners, and provides a sensible and friendly way of working for the future, avoiding competition in appeals or argument as to which organisation a man should go to.

I should just mention one exception: Where a blinded soldier wishes to undertake some occupation which is only taught at one of the Institutions he will go to that one for his training, no matter where he may intend to live.

I thought St. Dunstaners as a whole would like to know of this constructive proposal, though it is only of special interest to St. Dunstaners in Scotland. I ask all of them to help forward a good relationship between St. Dunstan's and Newington House now that we have entered upon this friendly arrangement.

Children for the Dominions

A number of St. Dunstaners have applied for their children of school age to go to one of the Dominions under the Government scheme. I have made a number of inquiries from Ministers to see if some special St. Dunstan's scheme could be arranged. The result of my inquiries is as follows:—

The Government is bound to confine the scheme to children between 5 and 16 years of age. The reasons for this are that the offers made by Dominion Governments are confined to hospitality for children of these ages, and also limitation of shipping.

The Government scheme does not extend to adults.

No private organisation like St. Dunstan's can organise an emigration scheme at the present time.

Colonel Edwin Baker, our representative in Canada, and Mrs. Bates, our representative in South Africa, have both very kindly cabled me that they will do anything they can to help any St. Dunstaners' children who go to those Dominions, and I am sure that our friends in Australia and New Zealand will do the same.

Will any St. Dunstaners whose children are accepted for transfer to one of the Dominions write at once and tell me, giving the full name, age, and sex of the children, and any details they may have as to where they may be going. I will then ask our Overseas friends to get in touch and send us reports.

IAN FRASER.

M.C. for St. Dunstan's Son Now Prisoner of War

OUR heartiest congratulations to Second Lieut. Robert J. Hyde-Thomson, of the Durham Light Infantry, on being awarded the Military Cross for his bravery, initiative and resourcefulness when in charge of a post in the front line in France.

The official record gives the following facts:—

"On May 13th this officer was in charge of a post when the enemy attacked. All the men in the post were killed or wounded, and the enemy, who had approached close to the post, called on him to surrender. Second Lieut. Hyde-Thomson shot the enemy leader, dispersed the remainder by throwing a hand grenade at them, and managed to escape to a flank, whence he was able to be of great assistance in organising a counter attack. Later in the same day this officer brought in a wounded man under heavy fire."

Unhappily, this gallant young officer was subsequently taken prisoner, but his parents have heard that he is being well treated.

Second Lieut. Hyde-Thomson is a son of Lieut. R. H. Hyde-Thomson, who served in the 9th Batt. Rifle Brigade (Special Reserve), and was wounded near Delville Wood in 1916, when he lost the sight of both eyes. On leaving St. Dunstan's he studied law, was called to the Bar, and is also a director on the Board of several companies,

Twice Burgled

IT was fortunate that someone—a member of the general public, too—had the good sense to take the number of a motor car at High Wycombe a few days ago, which was acting mysteriously in the region of Ronald Stanner's tobacco warehouse, for it led to two men being charged at the local police-court with alleged breaking into the store and stealing goods to the value of £192.

"Ron" Stanners is one of St. Dunstan's energetic and successful business men. He had the sight of his eyes destroyed by a sniper's bullet at Hebuterne, in August, 1916.

Like a number of other St. Dunstaners he entered the retail tobacco trade with a small shop at High Wycombe. That modest beginning has developed into a successful wholesale business, with a wide connection in the country.

Mrs. Stanners, although she modestly disclaims the title, is head cashier and assistant manager, and Geoffrey, the son, has now left school and is a member of the firm.

It is understood that Mr. Stanner's loss is covered by insurance.

Thousands of pounds' worth of gifts were sold at Christie's recently, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Red Cross Fund. H. Abbey, of Lightwater, one of our old St. Dunstaners, sent a fancy mat,

Sons and Daughters in the Services

BATTY, A/c. L. D. (Killamarsh), R.A.F.
 BROWN, Driver A. E. (Nuneaton), R.A.S.C.
 BURTENSHAW, Gdsmn. I. G. (Walthamstow), Coldstream Guards.
 BYRNE, Pte. J.
 CARTER, Pte. K. (Haughton-le-Sherne, Darlington), D.L.I.
 CARTER, Pte. K. (Darlington), D.L.I.
 CAREY, Pte. D. (Tottenham), R. Fusiliers.
 CAREY, Pte. F. (Tottenham), R.E.
 CHARLES, J. F. C. (Sudbury), R.A.F.
 CHAMBERS, Volunteer D. L. (daughter of W. Chambers, Wythenshawe, Manchester), E. Lancs. A.T.S.
 CLARK, Pte. J. M. (London), The Buffs.
 COLIN, — (Duke Street, London), R.A.F.
 COLLINS, Driver A. R. (Potto), R.A.
 COLLINS, Signaller Herbert (Jarrow-on-Tyne), R.A.
 COX, Gunner F. B. (Redhampton, Hants), R.A.
 DAIRS, C. (Gloucester), H.M.S. *Carlisle*.
 EMERY, Fusilier A., Royal Fusiliers.
 FOWLER, Pte. F. (Heworth, Yorks), West Yorks.
 GREEN, A/c.1 H. (Sunderland), R.A.F.
 GRIFFITHS, R. W. (Northampton), R.E.
 HARRIS, Signaller C. C. (Maidstone), Signallers.
 HENDERSON, Rifleman A. E. (City Road), K.R.R.C.
 HICKS, Gunner A. L. (London), R.A.
 HICKS, Gunner A. L. (New Southgate), R.A.
 HILL, Trooper J. C. (Gloucester), R.G.A.
 HINTON, Driver R. J. (Malvern), R.A.S.C.
 HORNSBY, Cpl. A. J. (Pitsmoor, Sheffield), West Yorks.
 HORNSBY, Sapper C. A. (Pitsmoor, Sheffield), R.E.
 HORNSBY, Pte. F. O. (Pitsmoor, Sheffield), Royal Scots.
 KEMPE, Sapper Philip (Redruth), No. 1 R.T.C., R.E.
 KEMP, Sapper S. P. (Redruth), R.E.
 LEWIS, A.
 LOMAS, Sapper J. A. (Walthamstow), R.E.
 MCLEOD, L./Cpl. J. (Cricklade), Queen's Royal Regt.
 MILLARD, Pte. T. (Tredegar), R.A.S.C.
 NOLAN, R. (Hinstock), R.A.F.
 ORROW, (Chingford), A.F.S.
 ORROW, Cpl. G. H. (Chingford), L.R.B.
 ORROW, Pte. (Chingford), M.G.T.C.
 OWEN, —, R.A.F.
 OWEN, Fusilier A. (N. Wales), Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
 OWEN, Fusilier A. (Bethesda, N. Wales), R.W.F.
 OWEN, Sapper G. (Bethesda, N. Wales), R.A.F.
 OWEN, Enid (Bethesda, N. Wales), N.A.A.F.I.
 PULLEN, A/c.1 V. (Woking), R.A.F.
 PULLEN, Seaman F.G. (Woking), H.M.S. *Wild Swan*.
 PULLEN, Pte. A. J. (Woking), R.A.S.C.
 SALTER, A/A. F. L. (Battersea), R.A.F.
 SCALLY, Marine J. C. (Corringham), Royal Marines.
 SIM, G., H.M.S. *Jackal*.
 SMITH, J. T. (Leicester), Leicester Regt.
 SMITH, Pte. J. T. (Leicester), Leicester Regt.
 TATTON, E. (Gloucester), H.M.S. *Drake*.
 THORNTON, Sapper G. C. (Camden Town), R.E.
 TRIGGS, Pte. L. J. (Ashford), The Buffs.

(Continued at foot of next column)

Comforts

The Committee send a message to the Fathers of Sons in the Forces. Several boys, due for a parcel, are still waiting because we have not got the latest address.

There has been so much troop movement throughout the country that it is only possible to depend on an address of recent date.

★ ★ ★

The silver teapot, given by Mr. "H.," for the Comforts Fund, realised the sum of £4 2s. 6d.

The draw took place on Tuesday, June 11th, and was won by R. Barber, of Bexley Heath, Kent.

Other St. Dunstaners

W. Ruddock, of Northallerton, one of our basket-makers, who is also deaf, gets a great deal of pleasure from his budget-rigars. One pair have presented him with a family of five. The little ones are quite tame and perch on his shoulder, chirruping to him.

★ ★ ★

Congratulations to Raymond, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lucocq, of Llandaff North, Cardiff, who has been awarded a scholarship which entitles him to a place at the Canton High School. Raymond is 12 years of age.

★ ★ ★

Driver/Mec. Briggs, son of A. G. Briggs, of Norwich, after surviving Dunkirk, is unfortunately now in hospital to undergo an operation.

★ ★ ★

Mrs. Wenlock, of Carshalton, writes that her son survived the Calais evacuation. He had a thrilling experience and got away on a raft and was eventually picked up safe and sound.—(Congratulations.—Ed.)

★ ★ ★

C. Knight, of Leicester, is being married on July 20th, to Miss Beatrice Phillips.

WALKER, Pte. F. W. (Bournemouth), R.A.O.C.
 WALKER, Pte. W., Welsh Regt.
 WALKER, Pte. Wm. (Gilesgate, Co. Durham), A.M.P.C.
 WALKER, Pte. F. W., R.A.O.C.
 WALKER, Pte. W. (Durham), Welsh Regt.
 WILLIAMS, Sergt. H. (Hampton), R.E., A.A.
 WISHART, J., H.M.S. *Hood*.
 YOUNG, Gunner W. (Putney), R.A.

A Reminiscence

THE appreciation, in rhyme, of a "Glaswegian" St. Dunstaner, of his stay at Ovingdean, published in the June REVIEW, under the heading "Brown Bread and Marmalade," has evoked a further humorous, but illuminating reminiscence from William Ward, of St. Leonards-on-Sea. He writes:—

"DEAR EDITOR,—It is very nice to have had read to me an article on 'Bread and Marmalade.' I have very happy memories of a similar kind of thing. I will try and describe to you one which I shall always remember. It goes back to the early days, and I think that many of us will always have some little thing to cherish in this way.

"One dinner-time, after we had finished the first course, we had custard to follow. I thought I was getting on very well, but I could not seem to finish the course. After some time I heard the Sister laughing, and found out that she had been pouring more on my plate before I had finished the first plateful.

"I can also remember quite well, when matches were much cheaper than they are now. After dinner, in the lounge in some quiet corner, we would light up the pipe. I would strike a match, and then another match, and presently we would hear the Sister laugh; she had been blowing out the matches.

"But I thank them all very much for their kindness, and also for the part that the Orderlies play, for they are indeed very good, and especially those I have known."

WILLIAM WARD.

A St. Dunstan's Air-Raid Shelter

MR. J. A. Morton, of High Wycombe, Bucks, a well-known St. Dunstaner, has evolved a very useful idea for the construction of an Air-Raid Shelter at the very low cost of £2. Here are the details:—

Dig circular pit 7ft. in diameter and 3ft. in depth; cast the soil into a mound size 6ft. in diameter and 4ft. 6in. high; place paper over soil and a box for doorway; then place 2 cubic yards of very stiff concrete over mound; when the concrete has set draw out earth core, dig circular well in the floor for the feet and to form a seat.

This shelter should accommodate eight people and can be made at a cost of £2.

Marriage

BUTLER.—Harold Butler, son of T. Butler, of 8 Hill Crest, Distington, by Workington, Cumberland, on February 14th, to Miss Annie Carr, of Leeds.

Deaths

HORGAN.—The baby son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Horgan, of South Douglas Road, Cork, died on June 25th.

We extend our very sincere sympathy this month to:—

J. L. BROKE, of Sheffield, on the death of his wife, on June 20th.

J. H. FLEMING, of Dagenham, on the death of his wife on July 6th.

Killed in Action

We deeply regret to announce the death of Private Arthur Aldridge, of the Northampton Regt., aged 26, killed in action in France on May 22nd. He is son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Aldridge, of Dagenham.

Reported Missing

Ernest Alexander, Black Watch Regt., son of A. E. Alexander, of Bournemouth.

Andrew P. Avey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Avey, of Worcester (he did not return from Dunkirk).

The son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Southen, of Exeter, is missing from his ship.

To our many Friends of St. Dunstan's

We wish to thank all those friends for their kind messages of sympathy offered to us for our dear son, who is posted "Missing."

We still fervently hope he may one day be restored to us.

"TINY" and Mrs. FLEMING.

(Driver J. F. C. Fleming, of the R.A.S.C., has been "Reported Missing" since May 26th. He was on the Flanders Front.—ED.)

Congratulations to Harold Butler, son of T. Butler, of Distington, Cumberland, on his safe return from Dunkirk in June last.

About Dogs

"Distemper Eye"

AS pointed out in a previous article, distemper has, after its attack, the ability of producing many other specific diseases of the organs which become apparent only when the attack has passed its height.

One of these repercussions and, in my opinion, one of the most critical, is that malady due to distemper known as "Distemper Eye."

In the past I have known of many dogs that, through the ignorance on the subject prevailing at the period, have, when stricken with this malady, been summarily destroyed.

Others, though later winning through, have become permanently blind through lack of treatment.

Of the latter type here is a case which was brought to my notice. The dog was a well-known prize-winning bloodhound, belonging to a famous tracking kennel.

This dog caught distemper at a big show. At the end of the attack it was found that he was blind, a film having formed over both eyes. As he was three years old, and in his prime, this blindness, if it became permanent, was a great financial loss.

On examination I found that it was "distemper eye," both eyes being completely covered by a greyish-white film. Successful treatment followed, the films being detached and removed. In fourteen days the sight was normal, and a month afterwards the dog took another first at a big show.

One may ask what was the specific disease of the eyes caused by the attack of distemper? I can only suggest that the disease was, and is, a form of eye disease known to eye specialists as "Iritis," derived from a few of the ailments of the human eye which are prevalent in the canine eye, the chief among them being "Ophthalmia" and "Keratitis." "Glaucoma" is not very prevalent, and none of the latter diseases may result from distemper.

H. MARSDEN.

Congratulations to Mr. H. Marsden, on securing First and Special with "Cornelly Revival" in the Open—Dog or Bitch—Bull Terriers, and second prize with "Sharples Brigadier" at the Liskeard Canine Society's Show last month.

National Egg Laying Test

Report for the Ninth Period of Four Weeks, May 21st to June 17th, 1940

Position	Name	Test Score	
			Value
1	P. Holmes ...	...	826
2	P. Holmes ...	...	806
3	W. Alan Smith ...	...	759
4	A. Jarvis ...	...	742
5	T. M. Fisher ...	...	728
6	D. McLaren ...	...	720
7	T. M. Fisher ...	...	717
8	G. Powell ...	...	716
9	R. E. Hill ...	...	710
10	E. H. Carpenter ...	...	613
11	J. Campbell ...	...	603
12	G. C. Jackson ...	...	598
13	A. Chaffin ...	...	587
14	D. McLaren ...	...	574
15	W. Alan Smith ...	...	553
16	W. J. Woodcock ...	...	548
17	A. Jarvis ...	...	523
18	G. C. Jackson ...	...	466
19	A. Benning ...	...	356
20	M. Watson Brown ...	...	344
21	H. A. Hammett ...	...	290
22	W. C. Stamp ...	...	273

The No. 1 Birds in St. Dunstan's Section

8th Month:—

		Score
1st Bird, No. 3331	P. Holmes ...	158
2nd „	3379 R. E. Hill ...	140
3rd „	3343 D. McLaren	139

9th Month:—

		Score
1st Bird, No. 3331	P. Holmes ...	175
2nd „	3379 R. E. Hill ...	161
3rd „	3397 T. M. Fisher	156

Bantam Successes

Congratulations to D. Batchelor, of Woodbine Cottage, Ratley, Banbury, Oxon., on his success in securing with his birds high awards in the Bantam classes at the Banbury Fanciers' Society's Show recently.

He won a First, R., and V.H.C. with his entry in the "Any Other Cock" class, and Second and Third with his exhibits in the "Any Other Hen" class.

Regatta Cancelled

IT will not come as a surprise to most readers of the "Review" that it was found necessary to cancel the Regatta, which had been fixed for July 10th.

“ In Memory ”

SEAMAN DANIEL MCCARTHY
(*Royal Naval Reserve*)

WE regret to have to report the death of Daniel McCarthy, of Kinsale, County Cork. He was an old sailor, serving with the R.N.R. in the late war, but did not come to us until 1923. He did not undertake any serious training, but carried on with various hobbies while his health allowed. He has been a very sick man for a considerable time and was confined to his bed for some period before his death, which occurred at his home in Kinsale, on June 19th. He leaves a widow and nine children, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

McCarthy never let his disability get him down. He was always trying to do something new. He taught himself to repair boots, and did all the family repairs for many years.

The funeral took place on Friday, June 21st, at Kinsale Abbey Burial Ground. Rev. Father Johnston, C.C., officiated.

A very large number of the residents attended the funeral, and among the wreaths was one from Captain Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades of St. Dunstan's.

PRIVATE WILLIAM CORCORAN
(*West Yorkshire Regiment*).

WE record with regret the death of William Corcoran, late Private in the West Yorkshire Regiment. He was very old, and practically since his admission to St. Dunstan's benefits, in 1930, has been in and out of hospital, and died in York Infirmary on May 21st, 1940.

He served in the Great War and also in the Boer War. He was discharged from the Army in 1917—a single man, never able to take up any training, as he has been an invalid for many years. A wreath has been sent from Sir Ian, but the funeral was a very quiet one.

“ Doin’ Their Bit ”

Mr. and Mrs. F. Pullen, of Old Woking, are busy “doin’ their bit” in the war. Pullen, senior, has been fitting Contex filters to gas masks; Mrs. Pullen is knitting furiously; Tony (the eldest) is in the Army; Fred in H.M.S. *Malaya*; Victor in the R.A.F.; Owen is a Scout, and Jean a Girl Guide. This is indeed an exemplary instance of war effort.

★ ★ ★

G. Lawlor, of St. Clement's Avenue, Leamore, near Walsall, South Staffs., has five sons serving with the Forces.

★ ★ ★

W. Lowings, of Sompoting, Sussex, volunteered, and has been accepted, as a member of the West Sussex Local Defence Corps. He has been posted to the Armoury to look after the rifles. Lowings has been instrumental in getting a local builder to supply free of cost a rack for storing the rifles.

The Monthly Sports Meeting for St. Dunstaners living in Brighton and district took place at Ovingdean on Thursday evening last.

Competition was keen, and several competitors added materially to their aggregate of points.

A Gift of Pipes

A GIFT, which will be greatly appreciated by, and will give many happy moments to, pipe-smoking St. Dunstaners, has just been received at Ovingdean, in the form of a packet of “Hurricane” pipes from the manufacturers, the Nutt Products, Ltd, of Oxford Street.

Some St. Dunstaners are already acquainted with the excellencies of this pipe, for similar gifts have been made in previous years.

That it is a “good ’un” is demonstrated by the fact that the King, who enjoys a pipe in the quietude of his home, has smoked a “Hurricane” for the past seven years and, in fact, has evinced his approval of it by awarding the manufacturers the Royal Warrant, the first and only pipe, it is understood, ever to receive this honour.

If the demand exceeds the gift, for which the lucky recipients are grateful, the firm has made a generous offer to supply St. Dunstaners with a similar pipe at half the retail price.

Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith, of Parbold, has won a scholarship to Wigan Technical College. Her sister, Kathleen, secured a similar scholarship to Southport Technical College four years ago.

CHAIRMAN'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES PENSIONS DEBATE AND POULTRY CONCESSION

IN a recent debate in Parliament on the subject of War Pensions, Sir Ian Fraser made an important speech. Points from the speech are as follows:—

The pensions of new blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen must be brought up to the level of those of the Great War men.

When these pensions have been brought up to that level, the hint given that all disability pensions would be raised when the cost of living reached a figure of 215, must be converted into a promise that this will be done, and when the time comes it must be done without delay.

The Government should introduce an Independent Tribunal for new cases, similar to that which existed for the Great War men.

In connection with pensions and the cost of living, Sir Ian Fraser said:

"I have at heart most deeply the interest of those most seriously wounded. It is well for the House and the country to bear in mind that if you are to do what is right by the man who indubitably was wounded in the war, and was very seriously wounded, then you must have a clean and honest pensions system, which does not lead to political jobbery for all who happen to have served in the war. . . . Of all the subjects of public administration which should be kept outside party arguments, surely it is the way in which we treat wounded soldiers and pensioners."

Referring to the rise in the cost of living, Sir Ian said: "It seems clear that in the absence of any other way of paying for this war it will be paid for partly by inflation. Inflation is profitable to many professional men, to most artisans and workmen, but not to widows and those who live on fixed incomes or on pensions: they are among the most vulnerable in the country. . . . It is certain that the time will come when the burden of sacrifice which will be called for from the pensioner will be more than is reasonable, having regard to the sacrifice being made by others."

The following correspondence has taken place between the Chairman and the Minister of Agriculture, the Rt. Hon. R. S. Hudson, M.P.:—

MY DEAR HUDSON,—In February of this year I wrote to your predecessor asking him if he would give special consideration to the position of war-blinded St. Dunstan's poultry and pig farmers. I pointed out the disabilities under which these men work, and the splendid way they have overcome them. I reminded Dorman Smith, too, that there are very few alternative occupations open to them and that, although poultry and pig farming is within their scope, they cannot adapt themselves to other agricultural activities.

The Minister answered, on March 19th, to the effect that, after consultation with the Ministry of Food, he agreed that special treatment ought to be given to St. Dunstan's pig and poultry farmers, and that he was issuing instructions to officials at the Ministry of Agriculture to carry out that decision.

I should be obliged if you would let me know if you are in agreement, and whether these arrangements will remain in force. I realise that the position has changed considerably, necessitating drastic reduction in pig and poultry food as a whole, but I am hopeful that you will feel the position of the St. Dunstan's blinded soldier poultry and pig farmers should be maintained.—Yours sincerely,

IAN FRASER, *Chairman.*

The Minister's reply was as follows:—

DEAR FRASER,—You wrote to me on June 7th with regard to the special position of war-blinded St. Dunstan's poultry and pig farmers. I recognise that these men have a special claim to consideration and, in spite of the new circumstances which have arisen, necessitating a substantial reduction in imports of feeding stuffs, I feel that we should be justified in continuing to give some preference to these blind ex-service men.

It may be necessary to restrict somewhat the allowance which has so far been made to them, but I am hopeful that we shall be able to let them have sufficient supplies to keep them going.—Yours sincerely,

R. S. HUDSON.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Headquarter's Own Bomb

ON the night of September 10th a bomb fell just outside the gate of St. Dunstan's Headquarters. It made a crater thirty-six feet wide, and fifteen feet deep. Dozens of windows in the Headquarters Office and in my house, which is next door, were blown in, and many hundreds of slates were cracked or displaced. Doors, window-frames, and plaster were damaged, and many tons of rubble, stones, bricks, and metal plastered the buildings and the yards around. Nobody was hit, and nobody is any the worse, except that gas, electricity, and water supplies were affected. The former have been remedied, but we have now all been without water for some days, and it looks as if this will continue for another week or two, but it is wonderful what you can do with a few buckets of water.

My wife and I and our staff live in the house next door to Headquarters, and we were there on this occasion. St. Dunstaners may be interested in our experiences. Let me say at once that we are not the only ones, for many St. Dunstaners have had a much worse crash than we experienced, and we were very lucky. Some of the staff were in the air-raid shelter, the door of which was thirty-three feet from the crater. Its door was splintered to pieces and sucked out by the intense vacuum which follows an explosion. The people inside experienced a few minutes of extreme anxiety, because they did not know whether they were hurt or not, or whether the roof might come down. But luckily all was well, and they suffered only from a bit of nervous shock. The air-raid shelter in which my wife and I were sleeping was about ninety feet from the bomb crater, and our experience was as follows:—

I happened to be awake and was standing outside the shelter, having a cigarette. Two or three bombs dropped, but I could hear by the noise they made coming down that they were some distance away. Old soldiers will remember that when we heard a long-distance shell, after a split second or two we could tell whether it was coming on our line or not. It is much the same with bombs—if the whistling noise remains more or less constant you can be sure the bomb is at any rate two or three hundred yards away, possibly more. If, on the other hand, the bomb is really dropping on to you, or very near to you, you are immediately aware that the whistling noise is getting rapidly louder. These were not screaming bombs—I have not heard one nearby—but ordinary high explosive bombs, which make a whistling rather like a shell approaching you, and a little like the swish of a rocket. I threw away my cigarette and went into the shelter, sitting on the step with the door open. Then I heard this bomb coming down, and immediately recognised that it was coming near. The whistling, sizzling noise increased terrifically, as the bomb drew nearer. I had time to wake my wife up, tell her to put her fingers in her mouth, which

is a good way of ensuring that the mouth is open to protect the ears, and to shut the door of the shelter. If you really hear the bomb as I did from the time it leaves the aeroplane it is surprising how long it takes to come down. I think a bomb falls at 150 m.p.h., whereas sound travels at about 700 m.p.h., so that the noise comes well in advance of the missile. One of St. Dunstan's buildings was between us and the bomb, so that we did not receive the direct blast, but it was sufficient to shake the whole shelter and fill it with dust. Apart from this we had no other experience except that of anxiety, followed by relief. A second or two after the explosion a large quantity of rubble and other debris came down on the shelter.

The interesting thing about this is that we, and all the others concerned, are less apprehensive now than we were before. I think the unknown is always worse than the known. Another thing which lessens anxiety is the power to discriminate the noise of bombs and the noise of anti-aircraft guns. After a little experience you get to know the difference. I am sure it is well worth while everybody studying this, because a lot of needless worry is caused by ignorance as to which noise is which.

Of course, if you are really smashed up, or if those near and dear to you are smashed up, the psychological effect may be different. But if you have what they call a "near miss," the effect seems to be to put up morale and make you feel better afterwards. I believe that this personal experience will be found to be the same as that of scores of thousands of Londoners who, as the days of bombardment continue, become more and more used to it, and less and less worried about it.

A number of St. Dunstaners have had nasty experiences, part of their houses being blown down, and there is no doubt that at the moment of the crash it must be very unpleasant indeed. All the world is admiring London for the way it is sticking this aerial bombardment, and I cannot write too highly of the hundreds of blinded soldiers who are remaining in London carrying on with their daily work as craftsmen, telephone operators, and masseurs, etc. St. Dunstaners all over the Empire, and in the quieter parts of the United Kingdom, will offer them congratulations and wish them good luck.

St. Dunstan's and the Blind World

Good relations between St. Dunstan's and the blind world are very important. Many St. Dunstaners all over the Empire have taken an active part in helping work for the blind, and I have always urged St. Dunstaners to promote goodwill between ourselves and other men and women who are blind, whenever possible. The National Institute for the Blind and the National Library for the Blind are particular organisations to which we owe a debt of gratitude for inventions and research, massage training, magazines, books, and library services. When war broke out, our task of raising enough money to look after all the old blinded soldiers for the rest of their lives was unfinished. Now we have the additional financial problem of finding resources for our new work. There is an added poignancy to our appeal, and our activities in this field are a little more insistent than they were. Apart from this, many honorary organisers offer to help us. Our standard of individual welfare is higher than that of the blind world generally, and there is therefore a tendency at a time like this for such competition as is inevitable to cause, I will not say friction, but uneasiness. In these circumstances, the greatest possible degree of understanding is required.

The National Institute for the Blind is the most universal collecting agency in the country and we are represented on its Council. To promote understanding, we have now decided to ask Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., who is Chairman of the National Institute for the Blind, to sit on our Council, and he has accepted. Sir Beachcroft Towse is a well-known blinded soldier of the Boer War, and has spent his whole life aiding the blind. During the Great War, he visited many hospitals, talking to wounded soldiers and writing their letters and encouraging them. Many St. Dunstaners will have met him. It is an honour to St. Dunstan's to have so distinguished a veteran join our Board.

I represent St. Dunstan's on the Council of the National Institute for the Blind, which I first joined as long ago as 1917. The other representative was Mr. W. G. T. Pemberton, a City business man, who is also a St. Dunstaner. He has recently resigned from this

position for war-time business reasons, and the vacancy has been filled by Mr. Edmund Toft. I am particularly glad to have Mr. Toft's assistance on the Council of the National Institute at the present time because, besides being an extremely competent blinded soldier, with considerable personal gifts, he has been Chairman of the St. Dunstan's Massage Advisory Committee for a great many years, and is a distinguished practitioner of the profession of Massage and Osteopathy. I think his help will be of particular value during the next few months, as we shall have to consider our plans for the training of masseurs should any considerable number of new blinded soldiers join us as the result of this war.

St. Dunstan's Homes

When France collapsed, the whole character of the war was changed. The threat of invasion and the possibility of big bombing attacks made it necessary for St. Dunstan's to decentralize its work. We had to have shadow establishments ready so that we could carry on whatever happened. That is why we secured the Longmynd Hotel, in Shropshire, the Concord Hotel in Blackpool, and Melplash Court in Dorset. As soon as these places were ready they began to be occupied, and it became uneconomical to maintain our big building at Ovingdean. The Hospital and Convalescent Home there is, however, being kept on a full care and maintenance basis, so that it could be re-opened at short notice if necessary. We have also closed down for the time being all our other establishments, including secretarial and welfare offices, which have returned to London. Only one place remains open, namely, the small house called Port Hall, where an old St. Dunstaner who was too ill to be moved, and Miss Boyd Rochfort, who is now convalescent from her long illness, are remaining and are being nursed back to health. Miss Boyd Rochfort expressed a strong wish to stay there, and all St. Dunstaners will be glad to know that she has at last been able to leave the nursing home and is so much better.

Northern and Midland St. Dunstaners are still dealing with the Blackpool Welfare Office, and this will continue. I think it wise to split our welfare work between London and Blackpool, so that either place could carry on the payment of allowances and other necessary welfare work should the other be bombed.

Lady Fraser and I have recently visited the three homes and it may interest St. Dunstaners to hear about them. St. Dunstan's, Longmynd, Shropshire, is a hospital and training centre. Mr. Davenport is the Medical Commandant and Ophthalmic Surgeon. Miss Pain is the General Matron and is in charge of training arrangements, and Miss Postlethwaite is the Medical Matron. The staff there includes Miss Davison, head of the Lounge, Sisters Evans, Watkins, and Brown, Miss Arning and Miss Poole, and Nurses Gaynor, R. Corrie, and B. Corrie, and Ball. Mr. Hawketts is Head Orderly, and Instructors include Mrs. Broughton, Miss Lloyd, Miss Lomax, and Miss Goodship, and Messrs. Rogers (typewriting), Burman (baskets), and Ralph (joinery). The last three are blind. I attach great importance to the inclusion of blind people amongst the instructors. All old St. Dunstaners will remember what confidence it gave us in our early days to find that some of the people teaching us were themselves blind. Generally speaking, St. Dunstan's, Longmynd, will be for hospital cases and training only. At the moment there are seven old St. Dunstaners and twenty-two new war cases in the Home. The majority of the latter are already St. Dunstaners. Others are recovering a bit of sight or are doubtful.

A regular programme of lessons and entertainments and sports is being followed at Longmynd, and all are settling down in their new quarters. Mr. Huskinson comes in daily with his cheery word for everybody, and on two or three occasions I met him giving new blinded soldiers their first lessons in finding their way about alone. The new St. Dunstaners include a number from Dunkirk, some gun explosion and accident cases, and a young pilot officer. They are all facing their difficulties with the same determination and spirit which made the old St. Dunstan's famous.

At Blackpool we spent a very happy afternoon and evening with about thirty old St. Dunstaners. They were all men who required a period of convalescence for medical reasons, except for three or four who were there because their houses had been blown out. Any St. Dunstaner who loses his home through an air-raid may come to us for a period of rest and recuperation, while we do what we can for his family and re-settle him so that he can carry on. So far, I have not heard of any St. Dunstaner who has been

wounded in an air-raid, although a good many have had their windows smashed or have had severe damage to their houses and businesses. We are doing all we can to help them. Two members of the staff, however, were victims of an enemy attack. Miss Morris and Miss Hensley were motoring down a certain road when a German aeroplane flew over them. They stopped the car and were making for shelter in a cottage when a bomb burst. Miss Hensley only received a scratch, but Miss Morris was, unfortunately, seriously wounded, and lies in hospital, where I fear she will be for some time. She suffered a wound in the arm and severe cuts and other damage in the back. Happily, however, there is every prospect of her full recovery to normal health. The sympathy of all those who have enjoyed Miss Morris's company for so many years, as V.A.D. and Sports Organiser, will go out to her at the present time.

At Blackpool, Miss Davies, who was in charge of the Dining Room at Brighton, is Matron, and Sister McCarthy, Miss Peacock, Miss Keily, and Miss Tippet are there, with Mr. Morris as Head Orderly.

Melplash, Dorset, is a beautiful country house standing in its own grounds. There are twenty beds, about half of which are occupied by the bedridden and more serious cases that used to be at Brighton. The other half are for old St. Dunstaners who require periods of convalescence. Melplash is a cheerful, happy place, not quite as quiet as Blackpool and Longmynd, for the German aeroplanes pass there when they are coming from France to some of our Western ports. The men have had one or two "dog-fights" overhead, but their attitude was rather that of spectators at a boxing show than anything else. Certainly Hitler hasn't got St. Dunstan's down yet. Sister Bradley, Miss Bertrand, and Head Orderly Mitchell are amongst the staff there, and the Matron is Miss Mary Crossley, as Assistant Commandant of the V.A.D., who lived in the neighbourhood. Her local knowledge of the people and the county of Dorset were of the greatest value, and although new to St. Dunstan's, Miss Crossley has very quickly fallen into her work as Matron as if she was an old hand. This house was very kindly lent to St. Dunstan's for the war by Mr. and Mrs. W. V. C. Ruxton, American friends of mine.

The establishment of three homes instead of one has inevitably led to our having to part from some members of the staff. It is clear that exactly the same personnel would not be required in the new circumstances, while some preferred to seek more suitable work than we could offer them. Amongst those who are no longer with us are Mrs. de Vaux, Sisters Thomas and Griffiths, Miss Saunt, and Miss Byolin, a number of orderlies, and the three St. Dunstaners, Messrs. Scott, Waite, and Mahony, for whom we are doing our best to make other arrangements. It will be a matter of regret, shared by all, that war conditions entirely beyond our control should cause the breaking of old associations, which we have all cherished, and I should like to express the very sincere thanks of St. Dunstan's, and of the men, to those who have left us, for their devoted and valuable services.

Well Done, Craftsmen!

I should like to give a word of praise to our craftsmen. Boot repairers are carrying on, many doing Army work, and in spite of difficulties, all other home workers are getting on with the job. The opportunity for increased local sales is being taken up by many. Shortage of commodities and rising prices favour local sales. The quality of our men's work remains excellent and they have been able to contribute to the war effort through baskets and mats sold to Government departments in evacuation areas, and by making camouflage nets. Over one hundred men have learned this since war broke out. I have been personally in touch with many Government departments to see if we cannot get some joinery war work. So far we have not been successful, as we have to compete with mass machine production, but we are persevering.

Exhibitions, which have been a useful part of our sales activity, have ceased, but other sales efforts have taken their place. When war seemed imminent, I gave instructions that very large stocks of raw materials were to be bought. This proved a very wise investment, and we are doing everything we can from month to month to keep up our stocks. None of us knows what lies in store for us, but St. Dunstaners can rest assured that the Sales and Trading Department will do its best under all conditions.

IAN FRASER.

If You Change Your Address

IN these days of sudden and frequent change of address, it sometimes happens that letters, work payments, etc., are posted before the notice of removal has reached us, and therefore some time must elapse before these letters can be returned to us and forwarded to the new address.

A change of address form can be obtained by members of the general public at the nearest Post Office. St. Dunstan's men are therefore urgently requested, before leaving their home town, to go to the Post Office and fill up this form, giving their new address, so that letters may reach them with the least possible amount of delay.

National Egg-Laying Tests

THE National Laying Test is supported by the best poultry breeders in the country, and the number of eggs the birds lay are the highest that can be found anywhere. A laying trial such as this is the shop-window of the breeder. The St. Dunstan's Section, which has been a feature of these Trials for so many years, has always maintained a high level, but it could hardly be expected to compete on equal terms with the champion breeders in the country. It is because of this strong opposition that the following incident is worthy of mention. Reporting on the ninth period of four weeks, the management of the Trials reports:—

“The distinction of the highest six-bird score over the whole Test goes to a pen of White Leghorns, belonging to Mr. P. Holmes, in the St. Dunstan's Section.”

Braille Magazines

JUST a word to readers of the “World Digest.” This magazine is very popular, and owing to the paper shortage only a limited number of copies can be published each month. Some months ago we asked anyone who received it, and who would be willing, after reading it, to pass it on to another St. Dunstaner, to let us know.

There was a good response to this appeal, but there are still some St. Dunstan's men who are waiting for the magazine, and I would be glad to hear from anyone who is not already making good use of his old copies.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor, “St. Dunstan's Review.”

DEAR SIR,

Contract Bridge

I shall be glad if you will allow me to bring to the notice of St. Dunstaners who are interested in Contract Bridge, a book which I have persuaded the National Institute for the Blind to print in Braille, and which is now available in two volumes at a total cost of five shillings.

It is called “Squeeze's Coups, and End Play,” by Downes. For those players who sometimes play in duplicate matches, and who wish to rise above the standard of the average player, I can strongly recommend this book. It is worth purchasing, and in any case the initial outlay will soon be recovered in the fulfilment of many a contract which might otherwise be lost. Players have the choice of adopting many different sorts of “bidding,” but this book provides a guide and a formula which will assist in obtaining the one extra trick which is apparently not there.

I have played in several duplicate matches, and have spent a lot of time in solving the Bridge problems which appear in the newspapers, and I find that a study of this book helps me to recognise the various types of problems, and it is the greatest fun to be able occasionally to apply the knowledge and to achieve results which were formerly beyond one's range.

Yours truly,
V. M. DEANE (*Captain*).

Braille Machines Wanted

One of the first needs of new St. Dunstaners is for braille machines. New machines may be difficult to get soon. If, therefore, there is anyone who has an old braille machine for which he has no further use, we would welcome its return, in order that it may be put into good working order for re-issue.

Machines should be well-packed and addressed to Headquarters.

R.A.O.B. News

Congratulations to F. G. Holman, of Taunton, who has been raised to the Second Degree of the R.A.O.B., the Sir William Arnold Lodge.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

ASPINALL, Cook Peter, Royal Navy.
 ASPINALL, Cabin Boy James, Merchant Service.
 ASPINALL, Robert, S.S. *Cineros*.
 BAILEY, A/c.2 C. B. (Blackpool), Royal Air Force.
 BARNES, Recruit H. (Bradford), Grenadier Guards.
 BELCHER, Gunner E. A. (Hampton), Royal Artillery.
 BELCHER, Sergt. A. L. (Hampton), Royal Air Force.
 BILLINGHAM, Pte. A. H., Beds. and Herts. Regt.
 BOWERING, L/A. Tony, Royal Air Force.
 BURLEY, A/c.2 Arnold, Royal Air Force.
 CLARK, Pte. L. G. (Bermondsey), R.A.O.C.
 CONDON, Arthur, Volunteer Reserve Ground Gunner, R.A.F.
 COUSSINS, Pte. L., Anti-Tank Corps.
 DOOLEY, Aircraftman Patrick, Royal Air Force.
 DUFFY, Pte. T., South Staffs Regt.
 DURKIN, A. C., Royal Air Force.
 DYER, Pte. Fred, No. 5 Training Battalion.
 EDGE, Marine Jack, Royal Marines.
 EVANS, Pte. J. (Walsall), South Staffs Regt.
 GRAHAM, Gunner R. L. (Tottenham), Royal Artillery.
 GUNSON, A/c.2 R., Royal Air Force.
 HACKETT, Gunner A., Royal Artillery.
 HACKETT, Pte. F. W., North Staffs Regt.
 HUTCHINSON, Pte. H. (Bradford), 11th West Yorkshire Regt.
 HUME, A/c.1 Fred, Royal Air Force.
 JACKSON, Pte. S., Royal Sussex Regt.
 JOHNSON, Pte. J. T. (Congleton), Yeomanry H.W.
 JOLLY, Pte. A. (East Ham), Royal West Kents.
 JONES, Gunner W. J. (Tooting), 58th (Kent) A.A. Regt.
 JONES, Gunner F. B. (Greenwich), Royal Artillery.
 JONES, Gunner G. T. (Greenwich), Royal Artillery.
 KEMPE, Pte. W. T. C. (Redruth), Devonshire Regt.
 LOMAS, Sapper J. A., Royal Engineers.
 MARSDEN, Probationer F. (Blackburn), 2nd Training Establishment.
 MCALONAN, Driver Richard, Royal Engineers.
 MCALONAN, Pte. Harold, 11th Home Defence Battalion.
 MILLISS, Gunner E., Royal Artillery.
 MOELLER, Driver L. G.
 NELSON, Fusilier T. (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Royal Northumberland Fusiliers.
 NELSON, Pte. C., No. 1 Ordnance Workshop Co.
 ROBINSON, A/c.2 John (Tottenham), Royal Air Force.
 ROBINSON, Arthur (Tottenham), 2/8th Middlesex, "C" Coy.
 SAINTY, Fusilier H., Royal Fusiliers.
 SELBY, A/c.1 George (Cardiff), Royal Air Force.
 SCOTT, A/c. L. C. (Bucks), Royal Air Force.
 SEYMOUR, Volunteer Alice, 18th W. Lincs, A.T.S.
 TAYLOR, C. A. (Colchester), H.M.S. *Shropshire*.
 YARWOOD, Ordinary Seaman William, Royal Navy Reserve.
 YUILE, Private, Scaforth Highlanders.

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As we go to press, we have learned with deep regret of the death of Harold Denny, from pneumonia, while on active service. Our sincere sympathy is extended to our South African St. Dunstan.

Killed on Active Service

We extend our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. R. Aspinall, of Barry Dock, whose son, Christmas Evan Aspinall, aged 18, went down with his ship, S.S. *British Monarch*, when she was torpedoed on June 19th.

Reported Missing

We have heard with regret of the following sons of St. Dunstaners who have been reported missing:—

Leo O'Kelly, only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. O'Kelly, of London, S.W.15.

Thomas Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Murphy, of Bedlington.

Harold Cooney, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cooney, of Worthing, reported missing, believed killed.

Prisoners of War

The following sons of St. Dunstaners, formerly reported "missing," are now known to be prisoners of war:—

Colin Burran, son of Mr. and Mrs. Micky Burran.

James Fleming, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Fleming, of Sudbury.

Gunner Willie Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Hill, of Gloucester.

Ernest Alexander, son of E. A. Alexander, of Bournemouth.

A St. Dunstan's Air-Raid Shelter

J. Wood, of Grange-over-Sands, has made what he thinks is the only private Air-Raid Shelter in the district. He, with the help of two neighbours, under his supervision, excavated it out of the rock in his paddock. It is 7ft. deep and the roof is composed of railway sleepers, covered by earth. It is very dry, and capable of holding 30 persons. He was arranging to put a beam on supports down the centre, to act as further support for the roof. His chief concern in making this was to provide shelter for the children of his neighbours. It has been a great piece of work and does him great credit.

Supplements

Owing to unavoidable circumstances, there are no Poultry and Gardening Supplements this month.

Young St. Dunstaners

J. Michael Law, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Law, of Tewkesbury, has obtained his University Degree, B.Sc., in Civil Engineering. He goes straight into military service, and we wish him the best of luck in his Service and his future career.

★ ★ ★

The son of F. Kneller, of Southampton, was saved when his ship went down; he has just enjoyed a well-earned fifteen days' leave.

★ ★ ★

Many St. Dunstaners will remember the reports in the Press at the time of the Dunkirk epic of the rescue of eighty-one men by one soldier, who, when the job was over, went off without a word as to who he was. The eighty-one men had been entombed in the cellar of a house. The unknown rescuer blasted an opening, through which they managed to crawl, and brought them food and drink. When he left them he left behind his partly-burned tunic, in which was his wallet. Photographs were sent to the Press, and when the papers reached Belfast the photographs were recognised. The rescuer was Bombardier George Brockerton, son of our St. Dunstaner, J. Brockerton, of Coleraine. We are very glad indeed to add that George himself is now safe in England.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. J. Attrell's son came safely through the Dunkirk business. So did Ian Kirby, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Kirby, of Wimbledon, although his ship was bombed and wreckage crashed down on him.

★ ★ ★

Reg Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Taylor, of Bournemouth, was not quite so lucky. Reg, who is a despatch rider in the Royal Engineers, was badly wounded in the big push on May 25th, and was rescued from Dunkirk two days later. He has had three operations and is now making good progress. Taylor has had a letter from one of his chums, who says that the Company are very proud of Reg. He went right in the thick of it with an important message, successfully got it through, and was smashed up coming back.

★ ★ ★

It is very much regretted that a number of other items concerning young St. Dunstaners have unavoidably been held over until next month.

Miss Hensley's White Elephant Sales

Miss Hensley writes: May I convey my thanks to everyone, and especially to Miss Morrah and Mr. Stanford, who have helped me with my White Elephant Sales. Exclusive of a gift of £5, we have made so far £14, which is being devoted to our own Sons' Comforts Fund and to comforts for the men of Commander Smyth's ship.

If anyone has anything small and saleable, I should welcome it at Headquarters in Regent's Park.

In a letter to Miss Hensley, thanking her for comforts for his men, Commander Smyth writes:—

"We got mixed up with that convoy business on August 8th, and were honoured with much more individual attention than was pleasant. Somehow they failed to get a direct hit, but we are as full of splinter holes as a colander.

"My ship's company was marvellous. They are mostly fishermen and yachting hands. The leading seaman was the only warrior among them."

News from South Africa

Congratulating Sir Ian on his return to Parliament, E. Denny, of Pretoria, writes:

"You will be interested to learn that I was instrumental through a select committee, in obtaining an amendment to the South African Electoral Law as regards voting by blind persons, and they can now vote in the same manner as in Great Britain. The Act, which was piloted by you through the Parliament of the United Kingdom some years ago, was of great assistance to the select committee who dealt with the South African Act, which became law last session."

Our St. Dunstaner now occupies the position of Vice-President of the Pretoria Branch of the British Empire Service League.

Honour

W. J. Hallam's brother, Quartermaster John Francis Hallam, of the Sherwood Foresters, has been awarded the M.C. "for great gallantry."

Advertisement

WANTED.—To purchase for cash, reasonable price, Tandem Cycle, double ladies or lady front, 22in. frame.—W. Henshaw, Painter's Green, Datchworth, near Knebworth, Herts.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE JAMES PERCY DONKIN
(*Royal Army Service Corps*)

WITH deep regret we announce the death of one of our oldest St. Dunstaners, J. P. Donkin.

Donkin, like many old soldiers, at the outbreak of war in 1914 was anxious to do his bit, but as he was then fifty-four years of age he was told he was too old. In spite of this, he subsequently enlisted in the R.A.S.C., giving his age as forty-five, but owing to eye trouble was eventually discharged from the Service.

He came to St. Dunstan's in 1917, but did not take up any training. A few years ago his health became very indifferent, and he was admitted to permanent residence at St. Dunstan's. His death took place at Melplash Court on July 21st, at the age of seventy-eight, and he was buried in the local churchyard. The Service was conducted by the Reverend Pope, Vicar of Melplash, and was attended by the Matron, Sisters Bradley and Bertrand, Head Orderly Mitchell, and his St. Dunstan's friends, J. Hartley, J. W. Cason, and W. Spencer. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

PRIVATE VALENTINE PICKERTON MORDUE
(*Royal Marines and Labour Corps*)

WITH deep regret we announce the death of another of our older St. Dunstaners, V. P. Mordue. Born in 1868, Mordue enlisted in 1918, at the age of fifty, and his eyesight was damaged at Harfleur in January, 1919.

He did not come to St. Dunstan's until September, 1924, when he was trained as a mat-maker. He did very well at this work until he was obliged to give it up on account of failing health; later he was taught to make rugs. Eventually, for health and age reasons, he was made a permanent annexe case, but only remained with us for a very short time—he died at Melplash Court on August 16th, after only a short illness.

The funeral took place at Melplash Parish Church, and among the flowers was a wreath of poppies from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades. Matron Crossley, Sisters Bradley and Bertrand, with other members of St. Dunstan's staff, attended.

PRIVATE SYDNEY GOODMAN
(*Royal Army Medical Corps*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of S. Goodman, of Luton.

Goodman lost his sight as a result of his service in France. He came to St. Dunstan's and was taught basket-making and he worked at this until fairly recently, when his health began to deteriorate. Eventually he was admitted to the Ovingdean Hospital, where an operation was performed, but in spite of every possible care and attention he died there on July 29th. The funeral services took place at the Golders Green Crematorium and Luton Church, and both were attended by several of his St. Dunstaner friends.

There were many wreaths, including one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Goodman in her loss.

Birth

BRAY.—To the wife of H. Bray, of Wythenshaw, Manchester, on August 10th—a son.

Death

We extend our deep sympathy to the following:—

HOLMES.—To A. Holmes, of Burley-in-Wharfedale, whose wife died on July 21st, after a long illness.

STRATTON.—To F. Stratton, of Shirebrook, Derbyshire, who lost his wife on September 3rd.

Marriage

FOSTER—McKEOWN.—On July 12th, at Clogher Cathedral, A. Foster, of Clogher, Co. Tyrone, to Mrs. McKeown.

Silver Weddings

CONGRATULATIONS to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives, who have celebrated their silver wedding recently:—

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lomas, of Walthamstow, June 27th; Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Coussins, Glasgow, July 28th; Mr. and Mrs. J. Kennedy, Barnhill, by Dundee, August 13th; Mr. and Mrs. H. D. S. Wood, Rugby, August 25th; Mr. and Mrs. C. Smith, Walsall, September 5th.

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We have also just received a note that Mr. and Mrs. A. Robinson, of Tottenham, celebrated their anniversary on December 25th, 1938.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 267—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

OCTOBER, 1940

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

OWING to the war we have no Chapel or Chaplain at the moment. Consequently we cannot hold the usual special Service in memory of Sir Arthur Pearson, the Founder of St. Dunstan's, but we shall, if possible, as usual carry out the little ceremony at the side of his grave in Hampstead Cemetery, on Monday, December 9th, when I hope to take a deputation of St. Dunstaners to lay a wreath there.

It has been customary for a number of old St. Dunstaners to subscribe for this wreath each year. As usual, the subscription is limited to one shilling, and should be sent to Mr. W. G. Askew, who acts as Honorary Treasurer of this little Fund. It should be addressed to him, at Headquarters.

In addition, we are asking the parsons who conduct services which our men attend at Church Stretton, at Blackpool, and at Melplash, to make reference in their addresses on Sunday, December 8th, to our Founder's memory.

It was in March of 1915 that St. Dunstan's first took formal shape, when a dozen or so blinded soldiers started their training in the old house of St. Dunstan's, in Regent's Park. There are now eighteen new St. Dunstaners from this war at Church Stretton. Many of the problems of the old days, together with a great many new ones, are being faced by the men and staff in the same old spirit which has fortified and strengthened us for a generation, and which we owe in such large measure to Sir Arthur. He laid his foundations well, and we are all of us proud to have built our own lives and the continuing life of St. Dunstan's upon them.

St. Dunstaners and the Air Raids

One hundred St. Dunstaners have been seriously disturbed by enemy action. Six have been blown out of their homes, which are now uninhabitable. I have asked the Editor to print a note of their experiences, where these are available, on another page of this issue. Twenty or so have been ordered to move, and the remainder have suffered minor damage or have left their homes for a time. Those who live in the quieter parts, and our colleagues in the Dominions, will join in extending their deep sympathy to the St. Dunstaners and their families for whom the war has meant such an upset to their normal lives. It is perhaps even more disturbing to a blinded man to be rooted out of home and business than to a man who can see. The blinded man gets used to his home and its surroundings, and to the familiar voices of the neighbourhood, and has to start again the painful process of learning his way around. But, as always, St. Dunstaners bear their misfortunes with courage and cheerfulness, and even a touch of humour. One Irishman who lives somewhere in the Midlands (the Censor won't let me say where), tells us that the other night there was a tremendous crash in his bedroom and something landed

in the attic above him. He and his family were rushed out by the authorities for, as there was no explosion, it must be a time bomb. Further investigation showed that it was really 2cwt. of railway line which had been blown half a mile. Insult was added to injury when the general manager of the railway company wrote and demanded that their property should be returned.

Earlier in the war, the Council of St. Dunstan's gave the fullest possible consideration to matters of this kind, and decided upon a policy of the utmost help and assistance in such cases. We do not rush into complete re-settlement for all, not merely because this would be very costly, but also because experience shows that a great many people want to get back to their familiar surroundings as soon as they can. The first shock causes them to leave and go to friends or relations, but after two or three weeks they miss their own home and all that it meant to them, and perhaps they have had a letter from a friend or relation saying there have been no more bombs since the last "packet." Perhaps also they are not as comfortable in their new billet. Perhaps also another "packet" of bombs has followed them, for the "Jerry" distributes his presents very widely.

But where a home has been completely destroyed, our policy is to effect a complete re-settlement. Our offices, of course, are still functioning in London, and if we hear that a family has been blown out we have arranged to provide accommodation elsewhere. If the accident occurred late in the afternoon, we should put the family up in a house in London, where we have arranged for an orderly to be present, and for an air-raid shelter to be available. If there was time, we would move the whole family to friends or relations, or the blinded soldier would be sent to one or other of our Convalescent Homes, and the Matrons of these Homes have taken rooms nearby for families.

Then the Estate Department gets busy putting in a claim for compensation, and the Welfare Department goes into all the circumstances to see what is best to be done. There are bound to be delays and disappointments, but I would like every St. Dunstaner to know that should misfortune befall him or his family, we are behind him to help in every possible and reasonable way.

In the meantime, Headquarters carries on and although some of the work has got behind-hand owing to the raids, we are rapidly catching up and doing our best. The Stores and Trading Department, at Raglan Street, also carries on, although there are inevitable delays in the transporting of materials and finished goods. The whole staff at Headquarters, at the Stores, at the Homes, and in the country have done splendidly, and St. Dunstaners will join me in telling them how much we appreciate their work.

Headquarters Continues to Receive Attention

We had been without water supply for nearly a month, and it had only been restored to us for a few days when another bomb was dropped a couple of hundred yards away, depriving us of water again. We have also had some incendiary bombs, but the Night Staff put these out without difficulty.

As I was writing this note, Mr. Askew came into my office to tell me about something, and, in course of conversation, told me of his experience last night. He is living temporarily in a hotel somewhere in London, and along with the other residents, takes his turn as watcher and warden. He had the job of putting out four incendiary bombs. He says: "They lit up the whole street, and I was in a hurry to put them out, as there was a 'Jerry' overhead." A bucket of sand accounted for each one. Personal experience makes you realise how harmless these things are if tackled at once.

Lest anyone who does not know the facts should get a wrong idea of air-raid damage from what I have written, let me point out that, while one hundred St. Dunstaners have had to move from their homes, seventeen hundred St. Dunstaners have not had to move from their homes but are still carrying on, and these include three or four hundred in the London area. Let me add that of our very considerable staff who work in London, at Headquarters and at our Stores and Trading Department, no one has yet missed a day's work, and only a very small proportion have suffered any actual damage to their homes. One member of the staff whose home was completely blown to pieces came to work the next morning. This shows you the spirit in London, and it is the same throughout the country.

Christmas Cards

Many of my friends in St. Dunstan's and in the House of Commons and elsewhere have been talking to me about Christmas cards. "Shall we send them this year or not?" I find there is a very widespread opinion that it would be a good thing to deny ourselves the pleasure of this for the coming Christmas.

Now the sending of a Christmas card is a very personal matter, about which each one of us must judge for himself. But I suggest to all my St. Dunstan's friends, men and staff, for their consideration, that every one of us gives up Christmas cards this year. If we all agree to do this nobody will be disappointed, and nobody will feel that he is being discourteous. We shall save paper, printing, and the load on the postman's back, and, incidentally, we shall save a little money, which is a good thing to do in these hard times.

I am writing this note for the October REVIEW so that there will be time for any who have views upon this matter to write, and their opinions will be published in the November issue. My strong advice is that the whole of the St. Dunstan's family unanimously agrees to give up Christmas cards until we have the very great pleasure of sending them to our friends again after the war.

IAN FRASER.

"Grow for Victory"

War Effort of a St. Dunstaner

EVERYONE has been willing, in these troubled times, to do his utmost to help the country. Some have been able to do little, but others have seized their opportunity in a magnificent way.

The Chairman has heard from one of these fortunate ones, T. Parrish, of Finedon, who, according to his letter, has taken full advantage of his chance to "Grow for Victory." Five years in the South African Police in his younger days, Parrish has designed his bungalow on South African lines, with garage, aviary and pleasure garden. The house is situated on the main Northampton—Cambridge road. Around it are the 236 acres which he has been farming for many years; 51 acres of clover grass, 43 acres of wheat, 17 acres of oats, and 11 acres of flax. Four horses and a cob, 28 store cattle and two cows, 34 pigs and 60 sheep and lambs constitute the livestock which graze on 63 acres of pasture, or are accommodated in the many buildings grouped around the foreman's house and stockyard. As if this number of livestock were not enough, seven acres of grassland provide accommodation for a score of caravans, and the children from this number of families play happily in this peaceful pasture.

Parrish's special war effort is growing wheat, flax and sugar beet on 47 acres of old pasture and rough land. Entering the main farm gate, he can show with pride 17 acres of wheat and three of sugar beet on

land that had been pasture, but has now been ploughed under the Government scheme. Further on he can point to another 11 acres of wheat where old pasture had been broken up, but his very greatest war effort is to be seen on a 16-acre patch. It was full of blackthorn bushes, which had to be rooted up by a special gyrotiller. It has been costly, but there are now five acres of wheat and 11 acres of flax as a real contribution to the country's needs.

The rest of the farm is well cultivated. The sheds are full of implements. The yards still contain several stacks of clover hay and straw, the fruits of a good season last year. Parrish, although he finds that farming is "not very prosperous," is full of energy and enthusiasm. He is fortunate in that there is work which he can do well, and he is to be congratulated that he has seen his opportunity and seized it to such good purpose.

St. Dunstan's

*Great home of light toward our southern shore,
What joy we knew within thy close embrace;
What knowledge gaining from the endless store
Of wisdom welling from supernal grace;
Danger may threaten thee on every side
E're thy brave work be anyways complete;
Still let thy children feel with loving pride
The throbbing purpose of a great heart-beat:
Let thy red poppies be a fadeless sign,
Symbol of honour we may gladly share,
Ever abiding in the wonder-shine,
Filled with the spirit of a Lady Fair.*

R.J.V.

Church Stretton News

In a note in last month's REVIEW, mentioning some of those who had been transferred from Brighton to Church Stretton, the names of Miss Hunt and Mrs. Cohn (V.A.D.'s) were omitted in error. During the past month, Miss Abernethy and Miss Ginner (V.A.D.'s) have also joined the staff at Church Stretton.

Melplash News

MARRIAGE

LEVER—HARDWICK.—The marriage took place between James Lever, of Salford, and Miss Ethel Hardwick, of Saltdean, at Melplash Parish Church on Tuesday, September 17th. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. A. H. Pope, and was attended by Matron Crossley and all the "boys" and staff. Sister Bertrand gave the bride away, and Orderly Bengé acted as best man. The reception was held in the dining hall of the Annexe, Melplash Court.

Friends present included Matron, the Rev. A. H. and Mrs. Pope, Dr. and Mrs. Hope-Simpson, Lady Hare, Mrs. Dyson, Miss Clark, and Miss Mandal; all very good friends of the "boys." The toast of good health was drank by all in a glass of wine.

F.M.

Catholic Literature in Braille

Miss C. Beard, Hon. Secretary of St. Cecilia's Guild of Catholic Brailleists, is anxious to inform Roman Catholics of the new Catholic literature which will shortly be available in Braille. Will any St. Dunstaners who may be interested get in touch with Miss Beard direct. Her address is 4 St. Simon's Avenue, Putney, S.W.15.

Brief Notes

Congratulations to J. H. Mason, of Bognor, one of our shop-keepers. Finding difficulty in getting supplies of jam, he decided to make his own. Two hundred pounds was his total as we went to press.

★ ★ ★

T. W. Grove, of Botley, near Oxford, is an Inspector to the National Animal Guard. He has been busy making a number of dogs' air-raid shelter boxes.

Young St. Dunstaners

The son of D. Alexander, of Dalbeattie, and T. Duncan, of Hull, both came safely through Dunkirk.

★ ★ ★

P. T. Maskell's son, who is now an officer cadet at Cranwell, passed out top at each of his two previous training stations.

★ ★ ★

If young St. Dunstaners are not old enough for the Services they join the Home Guard. Laurence Burley has joined up; so has C. Dennison's 18-year-old son. Dennison's daughter, incidentally, is in the A.T.S., and recently had a narrow escape during enemy air activity. She lost all her belongings, but fortunately escaped harm herself.

★ ★ ★

Even twelve-year-old Cecil Norman, of Sompington, is doing his bit. He is a Home Defence Scout—and very proud of his badge.

★ ★ ★

Joan Sparkes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. Sparkes, of Grimsby, is with the Civil Nursing Reserve.

★ ★ ★

Pearl Yarwood, who is sixteen and a brilliant dancer, has secured a three year contract for the pantomime seasons, with the possibility of playing the lead in "Red Riding Hood" on tour this winter.

★ ★ ★

Gladys Plunkett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Plunkett, of St. Leonard's, has married A.B. Clifford Worsley.

★ ★ ★

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Long, of Sheffield, was married on July 29th to Mr. Kettle.

★ ★ ★

Maisie Yuill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Yuill, of Wishaw, has married Mr. T. McIlwain.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. J. McPherson's daughter, Joan, was married on August 3rd to Mr. Eric Winch, at St. George's Church, Brighton.

★ ★ ★

Tom Collins, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. E. Collins, of Cowes, was married on August 31st to Miss Gladys Vera Church.

Young St. Dunstaners' (continued)

When the King and Queen were in East Yorkshire recently, the fifteen-year-old son of H. Hotson, was chosen as one of the party to accompany Their Majesties on their tour of inspection.

★ ★ ★

Harold, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Gunson, of Batley, appears in the first year Pass List of the Leeds University Pass Examination. He is preparing for his B.Sc. in Colour Chemistry and Dyeing.

★ ★ ★

The daughter of E. Mills, of Walsall, who has won a bronze medal for swimming and an Award of Merit for life-saving, recently rescued a child at the Baths, who had dived and failed to come up.

★ ★ ★

Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Kirby, of Wimbledon, has won a State Scholarship to Oxford University.

★ ★ ★

Brenda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. S. Pearce, of Hendon, has won a Scholarship to attend Hendon County School. She was the youngest entrant.

★ ★ ★

Daphne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Dean, of Hawkhurst, has won a Scholarship to Tunbridge Technical Institute.

★ ★ ★

Joyce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, has passed a Scholarship entitling her to go to Twickenham County School.

★ ★ ★

Ann Lloyd Rhys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Rhys, of Bangor, has secured fourth place in the County School examination. She is their third daughter to win such a Scholarship.

★ ★ ★

Edward Brockie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Brockie, of Torphins, Aberdeenshire, has been presented with the Silver Dux medal for his school, and has won a bursary for a course of secondary education at Banchory Secondary School.

★ ★ ★

Norman, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Skelly, of Batley, has secured his School Certificate.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. Sterno's son, George, has also passed his School Certificate. He has now made a start at the Admiralty, in Bath.

Bombed Out

THE six St. Dunstaners who have been blown out of their homes are: J. Jerrard, W. W. Clarke, W. J. Sullivan, Rees Warren, H. Hotson, and W. Parnell. Their experiences have been far from pleasant, as the following stories show, but they have each kept a good courage and a cheerfulness in keeping with the best traditions of St. Dunstan's.

A telephone call told us that Jerrard had been bombed out. An orderly immediately went to fetch him, and he came to us without hat or overcoat, and his feet clad only in carpet slippers. Although he was alone in the house when the bomb exploded, and was covered with dirt and debris, he kept his head and came out all right.

W. W. Clarke was in a neighbour's Anderson shelter with his family when his house was hit. Falling debris from the house covered the shelter and, furthermore, a crane nearby fell on top of it. But the shelter stood up to it, and Clarke and his family were rescued. We can add our own evidence as to the security afforded by an Anderson shelter; Clarke's story brings it home yet again that this is one of the most satisfactory forms of protection.

W. G. Sullivan is a chair case. His wife managed to get him into their air-raid shelter, and when the bomb fell they were safely in it. Furthermore, they stayed in it until Mr. Ottaway went to fetch them to Headquarters. Sullivan, his wife, and Bob, the dog, arrived in a St. Dunstan's van, and Sullivan was still his cheery self. They are now all installed in a cottage at Melplash.

Rees Warren suffered the loss of his house and damage to his furniture, but he has pluckily decided to carry on his job as a telephonist. He has sent his wife away for a rest, and he himself has gone into lodgings.

We have not received, in London, the full details of Hotson's and Parnell's experiences, but we learn that, although Hotson's house is at present uninhabitable, he hopes to be able to return to it soon.

Invalids

Miss Boyd Rochfort—making good progress.

Miss Morris—although a further slight operation has been necessary, still making good progress.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

AITKEN, Pte. J. (Newcastle), Durham Light Infantry.

ALEXANDER, Pte. J. (Dalbeattie), 5th K.O.S.B.

BARNARD, Gunner H. H. (Leyton), Royal Artillery.

BATCHELOR, P. J. (Banbury), Royal Air Force.

BRAMPTON, C. (Highgate), Royal Air Force.

CHAMBERS, Pte. W. A. (Birmingham), R.A.M.C.

HEAPY, Gunner R., Royal Artillery.

JACKSON, A/c.2 T. (Keighley), Royal Air Force.

JAMES, Pte. E. A. (Darlington), Manchester Regt.

LANGHAM, A/c.2 C. E. (Arnold, Notts.), Royal Air Force.

LATH, Gunner L., S.L. Training Regt.

MAKER, Trooper E. P., Royal Artillery.

MASKELL, Officer Cadet, Royal Air Force.

MEADER, Gunner J., Royal Artillery.

MOORE, G. L. (Folkestone), Civil Service Camp.

McFARLANE, A/c.2 James (Barnhill, by Dundee), Royal Air Force.

McGUIRE, P., H.M.S. *Alsey*.

O'HARA, Pte. Patrick (Clara, King's County), Middlesex Detachment.

PERCIVAL, A/c.2 Charles, Royal Air Force.

POTTS, Pte. A. (Norton-on-Tees), Green Howards.

ROBINSON, Pte. (Grimsby), East Yorks. Regt.

SEYMOUR, W. C. (Skipton), A.T.S.

THOMAS, A/c.1 Fred (Cardiff), Royal Air Force.

WALKER, A/c. 2, Cecil (Durham), Royal Air Force.

WATT, Sapper R. S. (Montrose), Royal Engineers.

WATT, Lce.-Corp. W. B. (Montrose), 1st Camerons.

WATT, A/c.1 Charles B. (Montrose), Royal Air Force.

WILD, Ord. Tel. S. (Stockton-on-Tees), H.M.S. *Royal Arthur*.

WILLIAMS, Corpl. W. B. (Monmouth), 4th Mon. Regt.

Sons from Overseas

E. Denny's youngest son, Terence, is on active service with the Pretoria Highlanders, South African Field Force. His brother Harold, whose death we reported last month, was serving in the same battalion.

★ ★ ★

"Pete" Melligan, of Brantford, Ontario, writes that his son is on active service—"just a buck private like his dad"—with the Dufferin and Haldimand Rifles. Although he is only 19 now he has already had three years with the regiment. "Pete" writes: "When I hear the names of the boys on active service, I call to mind their fathers. So many of them I had the pleasure of working with at St. Dunstan's. Best wishes to all St. Dunstaners. May God bless you and keep you all safe during these troublous times."

★ ★ ★

Bill Hough, son of our St. Dunstan's officer in Rhodesia, has joined the Rhodesian Air Force.

Prisoners of War

Tom Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Murphy, of Bedlington, and Jack Featherstone, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Featherstone, of North Ferriby, who have been reported missing since Dunkirk, are now known to be prisoners of war in Germany.

Great War Pensions

On Tuesday, October 15th, 1940, Sir Ian Fraser asked the Minister of Pensions if, in view of the continuing increase in the cost of living, and having regard to the fact that increases of pay have been granted to serving soldiers, and more recently increased allowances have been granted for their families, and to the unemployed, and to the fact that wages have continued to rise, he will now state whether the Government will increase the pensions of veterans of the Great War, and bring into line with them the pensions of men disabled in this war.

In his reply Sir Walter Womersley referred to an answer given in the House on October 8th, which read as follows:—

"No, Sir. The cost of living to-day is still considerably lower than that upon which the rates of compensation provided by the Royal Warrant of 1919 and corresponding instruments were based."

Press Cuttings

From the *Christian Science Monitor*—

TORONTO.—Lindsey G. Williamson, blind for many years, and placement director for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind here, has just completed a 14-foot motor launch, equipped with a two horse-power engine that he also helped to build.

Most of the planing, sawing, and drilling for the launch was done in Mr. Williamson's basement hobby-shop. The launch has a 52in. beam, oak ribs, a birch keel, and a depth of 19in. The engine was built in partnership with a seeing friend. Mr. Williamson assembles parts constructed by his partner into two and three horse-power engines as another hobby.

From the *Daily Express*—

VICHY, Monday.—M. Scapini, who was blinded in the great war and as a Deputy became known as the spokesman for French ex-soldiers, has been appointed by the French Government to discuss with the German authorities questions on prisoners of war.

Social Visitors

ST. DUNSTANERS who have been evacuated from their homes and now find themselves living in strange parts of the country may find the following list of the addresses of St. Dunstan's Social Visitors useful to them :—

Southern Area

Miss F. C. B. Lloyd, 37 Hotham Road, Putney, S.W.15.
Sister Goodey, 10 Ranworth Mansions, Compayne Gardens, N.W.6.
Miss D. J. Oliphant, Chatley, Warminster, Wilts.
Miss J. de M. Hensley, 5 Crawford Mansions, W.1.
Miss M. T. Hesketh Jones, Orchard Cottage, Tudor Close, Mare Hill, Pulborough, Sussex.

Northern Area

Miss Gough, Karrinyup House, Middlefield Lane, Hagley, Worcs.
Mrs. Argyle, Dryden House, Tamworth, Staffs.
Miss H. Pease, Whitwell-on-the-Hill, near York, Yorks.
Mrs. Dunphy, The Rough, Chester Road, Mere, Cheshire.
Miss Wood, Glenelg, Lenzie, Glasgow.
Miss P. Pease, Whitwell-on-the-Hill, near York, Yorks.
Mr. N. S. Macauley, 64 Salisbury Avenue, Belfast, Ireland.

Buckingham Palace Party

TEN St. Dunstan's men attended Buckingham Palace in connection with the "Not Forgotten" Association Party last month.

Her Majesty the Queen chatted for about ten minutes with them. She was particularly interested to hear that Collyer had travelled alone to the Palace from St. John's Wood.

The Queen remembered Mr. Harry Burgess, an orderly at St. Dunstan's, as having been with the party of Australian St. Dunstaners at the Villers Bretonneux Memorial a year or so ago.

Her Majesty said that it seemed incredible that the last war had ended so long ago. Rather it seemed like a long Armistice.

A St. Dunstaner said "We'll get 'him' down," while the Queen laughingly agreed.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy to the following :—

MARSHALL.—To Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, of Worcester, whose niece, whom they had brought up since she was a child, until her marriage, has been killed in London. She was struck by shrapnel.

POTTS.—To Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Potts, of Combe Martin, whose eldest child, Paul Norman, died of pneumonia on October 3rd.

WRIGHT.—To Mr. and Mrs. W. Wright, of Stalybridge, whose daughter died on September 4th, at the age of 26.

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. T. Ashall, of Billinge, near Wigan, whose anniversary was on September 22nd, and to Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Oram, of Barnes, who celebrated theirs on September 25th.

"Wally" Plumpton

The first band of instructors who came to St. Dunstan's and commenced their work before the large workshops were erected were blind men, and the particular assistance they were able to give was always an important part of a St. Dunstaner's experience. With deep regret we have heard of the death of the man who gave this help in the boot repairing shop from the beginning until the shop closed at Brighton. Wally Plumpton was the first and last instructor in boot repairing to the blinded soldiers of 1914-18, and his patience, understanding, and quiet confidence helped many a man through his difficulties. The men he taught and befriended will have the happiest recollections of him; he had many happy memories of his time with them.

Lady Stanhope

We have heard with deep regret of the death of Lady Stanhope who, as Lady Eileen Browne, was for four years during the last war a V.A.D. at one of our blinded officers' houses in Portland Place. She married, in 1921, Earl Stanhope, who until recently was First Lord of the Admiralty.

★ ★ ★

"Let us find the balance between criticism of things ill done and appreciation of things well done."

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE JOHN BARNETT
(6th North Staffs Regiment)

WE record with deep regret the death of J. Barnett, of Longton, Staffs.

Barnett was discharged from the Army in 1918 with damaged sight, but he did not come under our care until as late as 1938. He was then over 60 years of age, and a sick man. He did not come to St. Dunstan's at all for training, and after a very long illness, died in the local hospital, on July 31st, 1940.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Barnett leaves a widow, who is over 70 years of age, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

PRIVATE JOHN WILLIAM FOX
(North Staffs Regiment)

WE record with regret the death of J. W. Fox, of Hanley.

Although discharged from the Army in 1917, having received gun-shot wounds in his face, after serving from August, 1914, Fox did not come under St. Dunstan's care until as late as 1937.

He was trained at Brighton, and even during the last months of his life (when he was ill for a considerable period) he carried on rug-making as a hobby.

His death occurred at his home on July 9th.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

(This notice was unavoidably held over from last month's REVIEW.)

LANCE-CORPORAL HENRY W. YOUNG
(14th London Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of H. W. Young, of London (Roehampton Estate).

Young's sight was injured as a result of his War service, and as it continued to deteriorate he eventually came to St. Dunstan's for training in wool rug-making. This he carried on with for a few years, but his health grew worse. For the last few years he has been a complete invalid, and during the past few months it became obvious that his death was a matter of time. He died on August 29th.

The funeral took place a few days later, at Putney Vale Cemetery, and those present included his St. Dunstan's friends, Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Robins, of Kilburn. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Young and her family, who loved and nursed him so devotedly.

PRIVATE ALEXANDER THOMAS GRAY
(Middlesex Regiment)

WITH deep regret we record the passing of “ Tommy ” Gray.

Gray lost his sight in December, 1914, and some time after was admitted to St. Dunstan's for training. He worked at baskets for some time but, owing to increasing ill-health, was admitted to St. Dunstan's Convalescent Home as a permanent resident. Recently he, with other permanent cases, was evacuated to our Convalescent Home at Melplash Court, near Bridport, Dorset. He passed away there on August 27th, at the age of 71.

The funeral took place at Melplash Court on August 29th, and among those present were Matron Crossley, Sisters Bradley and Bertrand, and several of his old St. Dunstan's friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades.

PRIVATE MATTHEW MULVANEY
(Royal Army Service Corps, M.T.)

WE record with deep regret the death of M. Mulvaney, of Whitley Bay.

Mulvaney had been in indifferent health for some time, and it had been arranged, in order to give him some rest from air-raid activity, that he should come to the Blackpool Home. Unfortunately, almost on the day he was due to travel, he was taken seriously ill, and he died on September 4th, after a few weeks' illness, at his home.

Mulvaney was discharged from the Army in 1919, but he did not come to us until 1924. He was trained as a boot repairer and mat-maker, but for some time was only able to carry on with wool rug-making and Braille teaching.

The funeral took place at Whitley Bay New Cemetery, following Requiem Mass. A wreath from Sir Ian and his St. Dunstan's comrades, and one from the British Legion, were among the many flowers.

M. G. Rushton, of Cullercoats, and Mrs. Merkin, of Wallsend, represented St. Dunstan's.

We offer our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Mulvaney and her son and daughter in their loss.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 268—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

NOVEMBER, 1940

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

WE have had another bit of bad luck. Our offices seem to be a target, though why I cannot imagine, because they have no military significance whatever.

A bomb fell directly on the Talking Book recording rooms, which are part of our main buildings. The studios, recording rooms, experimental workshop, proof-reading room, were all completely destroyed, and in place of a splendid and efficient building there is now a heap of concrete, bricks, and rubble. In the middle of it all are scattered bits and pieces of microphones, amplifiers, loud speakers, and recording machines. This wanton destruction of a fine and beneficent philanthropic work is another little monument to the enemy's carelessness or policy of indiscriminate bombing. However, let us at least be cheered by the thought that the destruction of the Talking Book plant will not help "Jerry" to win the war.

Of course, we intend to carry on. This is the spirit of Britain and the spirit of St. Dunstan's. We are immediately setting to work to start again, but it will be a month or two before we can get into production. Fortunately, the Library of finished records and the masters from which they can be reproduced are in different places and are safe.

This direct hit has badly damaged the whole of our building and my house, and we have temporarily moved the greater part of the office to the old St. John's Lodge building, which had been turned into a museum and happened to be empty. Many of the windows there have been blown out, but the staff are doing the best they can to get on with the work. The greatest credit is due to the whole of the staff for the way in which they are carrying on in these short and difficult days. No one has yet missed a day's work.

We may be able to repair parts of these buildings so as to retain a Headquarters office, but we may have to move some part of the work to another place.

St. Dunstaners continue to get bombed out of their homes, but we are doing all we can for them. Recently I heard of a St. Dunstaner who lost £30 because he had the money in notes in his house, and after the bomb had destroyed the building and furniture, the notes could not be found. This is a warning of which all should take note. Do not keep loose money in your house. Buy National Savings Certificates, or put it in the Post Office. You will thus be saving your own property and helping to win the war.

South Africa and the Comforts Fund

On another page also is printed a letter from Mrs. Bates, bringing the good wishes of South African and Rhodesian St. Dunstaners and their friends, together with a most generous cheque for our own Comforts Fund. I understand that there are over three hundred and fifty sons of St. Dunstaners now serving in H.M. Forces, and that, up to date,

two hundred and eighty parcels have been sent. From time to time the men and staff at Church Stretton and at Blackpool have raffles and collections, and contributions are also received from individual St. Dunstaners and their friends. Miss Pain, the Matron at Church Stretton, acknowledges all of these with most sincere thanks. St. Dunstaners at home will, I know, feel specially grateful for the South African contribution, the first to arrive from the Dominions; it warms our hearts with recollections of old times, and reminds us of the full share the Overseas Empire is taking in our long march to victory. All St. Dunstaners of the older generation, staff and men alike, are glad to feel that the new generation are serving the Empire so gallantly, and in such large numbers, and it is a pleasure from time to time to send these boys a parcel.

Christmas Cards

The Editor is printing a number of letters supporting my suggestion that we should cut out Christmas cards until after the war. I would like all St. Dunstaners to read these, and, in view of these expressions of opinion, let us make it our official policy not to send any Christmas cards this year.

IAN FRASER.

News of St. Dunstaners

J. W. Killingbeck, of Cranleigh, has led the way in making A.R.P. arrangements for his district. He organised a nightly patrol of the district, has canvassed for money to get fire-fighting appliances, etc., and he and his friends have now built a good shelter.

★ ★ ★

S. Barlow, of Grimston, Norfolk, with his son, have made what a local authority described as one of the best shelters he has seen. Two tons of concrete went into its making.

★ ★ ★

W. Price, of Shrewsbury, is an enthusiastic gardener. One of his potato roots has borne sixty-five potatoes, sixty of which were usable.

★ ★ ★

A. Oldfield, of Walkley, has joined the Home Guard, and takes his turn on duty, as far as his very slight vision allows.

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W. J. Westaway, of Yeovil, has recently raffled a Design Mat, No. 3 size, at the British Legion, in aid of the Sick and Wounded Fund. It realised the sum of £5 14s. 3d. Westaway has been elected to all the Committees again this year.

★ ★ ★

W. H. Collins, of Sompting, who has helped many good causes before in this way, also made a mat which was auctioned for the Red Cross and brought in £5.

★ ★ ★

The mother of H. Nelson, of Durham, has now passed her 100th birthday, and has received congratulations from the King.

Transport Board Passes

WILL St. Dunstaners holding passes for trolley buses, trams, and buses, controlled by the London Passenger Transport Board, note that, for economy reasons, their tickets need not be returned, but will remain available for another twelve months.

Any man who has a badly damaged or illegible pass should, however, return it to the Commercial Officer of the Board, Hillingdon Station, Middlesex, when it will be replaced by a new one, free of charge.

If You Are Ill—

Just a reminder that Mr. Banks, who now deals with all National Health Insurance matters, should be advised immediately you sign on the panel, and again when you sign off, so that the stamping of your Insurance cards may be regularised, and the proper refunds made to you.

Sister Goodey

Sister Goodey, whose address was given last month as Ranworth Mansions, N.W.6, has since had to move as a result of enemy action. Her address is now 3 Grove End Gardens, St. John's Wood, N.W.8.

Braille Machines

The bomb at Headquarters unfortunately destroyed the records of several St. Dunstan's men and other friends who had sent Braille machines to us. Will anyone who has sent a machine, therefore, and has not yet had it acknowledged, please accept our sincere thanks.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

AVEY, Corpl. A., Royal Berks. Regt.
 AVEY, Pte. J., Regt. Police.
 AVEY, Guardsman T. A., Grenadier Guards.
 BAILEY, Gunner E. L. (Barnehurst), Royal Artillery.
 BELL, Gunner F. T. (Canvey Island), Royal Artillery.
 BOARDMAN, Signaller H., R.T. Regt.
 CAMPBELL, Pte. Chris. (Blackburn), 11th King's Regt.
 CAMPBELL, A/c.1 T. (Blackburn), R.A.F.
 CASS, Gunner Ernest, Royal Artillery.
 CASS, John, Royal Navy.
 CASS, OLIVE (now Mrs. Naylor), A.T.S.
 CROOK, A/c.2 J. H., Royal Air Force.
 CURNOW, Gunner Ivor, Royal Artillery.
 DAVIES, Bombardier J. W., R.F.A.
 EXALL, Driver, R.A.S.C.
 GALLOWAY, Gunner R. W., Royal Artillery.
 GALLOWAY, Driver W. J. (Oxford), R.A.S.C.
 GARRATT, O.S. Harry D. (Nottingham), H.M.S. *Raleigh*.
 HORRELL, Glanville, A.F.S. (London).
 HORRELL, Gunner Idris (Rhondda), Royal Artillery.
 HUME, A/c.2 T. W., R.A.F.
 JOHNSON, Pte. J. T. (Congleton), H.Q. Coy.
 LEWIS, Corpl. A. (Gwaum-cae-Gurwen), Welch Regt.
 LOMAS, Sapper J. A. (Walthamstow), Royal Engineers.
 LOVELL, Pte. A., 1st K.S.L.I.
 LOVELL, L.A.C., A. J., R.A.F.
 MEGSON, Fitter Ronald, R.A.F.
 MORGAN, G. H. (Tredegar), R.A.F.
 SAYERS, A/c.2 H., R.A.F.
 SAYERS, L.A. T., H.M.S. *Furious*.
 SIMMONS, Sapper, R.A.F. Station.
 SKELLY, L./Bombardier B., Royal Artillery.
 STOREY, L., R.A.F.

Take Care of Your Watch

There may be a "famine" in watches after the Christmas gift season. "The embargo on watches from abroad, particularly Switzerland, is hitting us hard," says a jeweller. "There is also a shortage of material for watch repairs." So—take care of your watch.

The Pictures

"Yes, Sister; I should like to go
 And see a jolly picture show;
 'Tis ages since I last saw one,
 But in the meantime, while I'm gone,
 Dear Sister, will you place these bets,
 And get me fifty cigarettes?"

"Yes, Sister; I enjoyed the show,
 More often I shall have to go;
 The picture? 'Twas about a chap—
 But there, I had a lovely nap;
 And Sister, did I win my bets?
 And did you get my cigarettes?"

R.J.V.

Prisoner of War

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lee, of Sacriston, Co. Durham, have now heard that their son is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Young St. Dunstaners

Congratulations to Sergeant Pilot Terry Roden, Jun., on his promotion to Pilot Officer.

★ ★ ★

We regret to hear that the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roughley, of Weaverham, has been widowed by the death of her husband in an air-raid.

★ ★ ★

Bert Chapman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, of Scaldwell, Northants, is now a Lance-Corporal, and has just passed his first-class test in cooking.

★ ★ ★

Young William J. Lawlor, of H.M.S. *Kelly*, who already has the D.S.M., has been awarded the Palestine Medal. His brother, Corporal M. P. Lawlor, of the 2nd Ulster Rifles, has also won the Palestine Medal. Out of nine sons, Mr. and Mrs. Lawlor have six serving in the various Forces.

★ ★ ★

Eileen Shread has become engaged to Flight Lieut. A. L. G. Hubbard, D.F.C.

★ ★ ★

The boxing sons of J. Healy, of Manchester, have fought at Belle Vue, Manchester, in aid of the Spitfire Fund. William is in the semi-final for the Northern Amateur Championship.

★ ★ ★

Gladys Hume (Alnwick) is a nurse with the British Red Cross.

★ ★ ★

The son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distinguon (Border Regiment) has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

★ ★ ★

Arthur Summers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Summers, of Southampton, is now a Sergeant, a Gunner and Wireless Operator, in the R.A.F., and may soon become an instructor. At present he is on sick leave with a fractured arm.

Invalids

Miss Boyd Rochfort—still making progress.

Miss Morris—has now left hospital and is convalescing in Cornwall.

Church Stretton News

ON Sunday, October 27th, a party of St. Dunstaners from Church Stretton visited Much Wenlock, where they were welcomed by the Mayor, Alderman Thompson, and other members of the Corporation, and of the British Legion. By kind permission of Mrs. Ward they were conducted over the ruins of the Abbey by Alderman Cain, who, assisted by the Custodian, Mr. J. Kitson, gave them an interesting account of the history and also of the architecture of the Abbey. The tracery and mouldings they were able to feel and appreciate for themselves. Thence he led them to the mediæval Guildhall, which is panelled with oak, and contains a wonderful collection of furniture and fittings. Here, seated on richly-carved chairs, they heard the civic history of Much Wenlock. After duly examining and testing the furniture, from the Mayoral chair to the dock and stocks, the party went on to tea at the Fox Inn.

Armistice Ceremonies at Church Stretton

THE Chairman and representatives of the old and new St. Dunstaners at Church Stretton attended the Armistice Parade and Morning Service at Church Stretton on Sunday, November 10th, and on Monday, November 11th, a large party of new and old St. Dunstaners and staff went to the War Memorial to attend the Service, and the Chairman laid a wreath on behalf of all St. Dunstaners.

Blackpool News

SOME time ago a St. Dunstaner, E. Lupton, founded the "Great War Disabled Men's Association" in Blackpool. Each year a wreath is placed on the Blackpool Cenotaph, and on October 27th this year's ceremony took place. Thirteen St. Dunstaners, with Matron Davies and Miss Keily (who were the only women in the procession) joined the parade, with representatives of the Royal Engineers, the East Lancs. Regiment, the Royal Air Force, the British Legion, the various A.R.P. Services, and the Home Guard, as well as the members of the Disabled Men's Association. Three bands escorted them.

Armistice Day, 1940

M. Burran, N. Downs, and T. Roden, accompanied by Mr. H. Burgess attended the Cenotaph on the morning of November 11th, where they placed a wreath "In remembrance of their comrades, from Sir Ian Fraser and the Blinded Officers, N.C.O.s and Men of St. Dunstan's throughout the Empire."

The Comforts Fund A Gift from South Africa

THE following is the letter received by Sir Ian Fraser from Mrs. Chadwick Bates, to which Sir Ian has referred in his Chairman's Notes:—

DEAR SIR IAN,

I enclose original of Draft for £23 10s., being the amount I have collected from South African St. Dunstaners and St. Dunstan's helpers and friends here, for "St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund" for the serving sons of St. Dunstaners.

Some time ago, on reading in the REVIEW of the gifts to these lads from the staff and helpers at Headquarters, I felt that St. Dunstaners here and many of our friends would like to contribute to this fund, so wrote to each of the former and to our Committees in various parts of the Union and Rhodesia, and asked for contributions of one shilling each. The result of this small collection I now enclose—many have contributed more than the suggested shilling, and many are the good wishes sent in the letters received.

Will you, through the medium of the REVIEW, acknowledge this small contribution to your "Comforts Fund," and convey, too, to all the boys so gallantly following in their fathers' footsteps, the united good wishes of South African and Rhodesian St. Dunstaners and their friends.

We have another name to add to your list, O. Garnet Muller, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. A. Muller, of Mafeking, who is now in training at Potchefstroom with the 26th Field Battery of the South African Artillery.

I should like to send a special personal message of good wishes to these boys, many of whom I well remember as small boys, and even as babies, when their fathers were in training at St. Dunstan's.

Yours sincerely,
E. M. CHADWICK BATES.

The Romance of Sir Arthur Pearson's Life

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON, Founder of St. Dunstan's, died on December 9th, 1921.

When Sir Arthur died, the public and press of the whole world paid tribute to him. The memoir which follows appeared in the *Evening Standard*. Both generations of St. Dunstaners will read it with interest—the one with affectionate remembrance, the other with wonder, perhaps, but certainly with pride and a determination to follow in his steps.

"I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there is any good thing which I can do, or any kindness I can show my fellow-men, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

In this, his favourite quotation, lies the keynote of the life of Cyril Arthur Pearson—a life now ended with tragic suddenness.

The career of Sir Arthur Pearson—the first baronet—is at once a romance and a glory. His entry upon a journalistic career of meteoric, yet brilliant, success was romantic; the cessation of these activities through blindness was a tragedy.

But from tragedy was born glory. The world has almost forgotten Pearson, the newspaper proprietor, but to the world Pearson and St. Dunstan's are synonymous terms. And St. Dunstan's represents a triumph—the crowning triumph of a wonderful life.

The future proprietor of nine daily newspapers, four weekly newspapers, nine weekly periodicals, and six monthly magazines, was born in 1866, the son of a village curate.

Educated first at Wimbledon, then at Winchester, at the age of 18 young Pearson, buried in the village of Drayton Parslow, became one of 3,000 competitors for the prize of a clerkship at £100 a year, offered by a periodical for answers to a series of ten searching questions a week for three months.

To obtain the information he required, Arthur Pearson cycled some 2,000 miles, covering the 30-mile road that separated him from the county reference library at Bedford. The reward of industry and perseverance was a clerkship in Sir George Newne's office, and thus, in 1884, Pearson came to Fleet Street.

Six months later he secured the post of manager, and for six years he held it. In 1889 he parted company with the house of Newnes, and became the first manager of the "Review of Reviews," with the late W. T. Stead.

"Pearson's Weekly," which keeps Sir Arthur's name ever green in the newspaper world, succeeded where others had failed, in phenomenal achievement with a missing word competition that grew to stupendous dimensions at lightning speed. During a few weeks £175,000 were received and distributed, the pool in the last week totalling £40,000, and the competitions requiring a special staff of 500 women clerks.

In 1900 came the foundation of the *Daily Express*. Later Sir Arthur acquired control of the *St. James's Gazette*; then the *Standard* and the *Evening Standard*, and the amalgamation of the *Evening Standard* and the *St. James's Gazette*.

When, in 1910, Mr. Arthur Pearson withdrew from the *Evening Standard* he left it soundly established. Already—indeed, before he was 30 years of age—Sir Arthur had made his name in Fleet Street, but he did not stay his hand.

Then Fate struck her cruel blow. A visit to a distinguished oculist established the threat of blindness. Operation after operation was borne in a fight of many months against the impending calamity, but when still on the sunny side of 50, Mr. Pearson (he was not given his baronetcy until 1917) was blind.

Already he had found an outlet for the philanthropy of his nature. Away back in the early 'nineties he had founded the Fresh Air Fund, whose annual Epping Forest outing this year coincided with the birthday of the Prince of Wales and was honoured by his presence. In thirty years that fund has provided a country holiday for more than 4,000,000 London children, and a fortnight's holiday for 60,000 children throughout England.

Sir Arthur's greater philanthropy, the work with which his name will be indelibly associated, is enshrined in St. Dunstan's, the training college of the blind, which, during and since the war, has done infinitely more than any other single institution to relieve the greatest of all sufferers.

This fight against the foe of physical darkness—a magnificent and wonderful

struggle—undoubtedly owed the major part of its success to the virile personality, the optimism, and the genius of a man who would never acknowledge defeat. The blind leading the blind, guiding them back to the enjoyment of work and life—truly an inspiring picture of courage undaunted.

Only a little while ago, Sir Arthur committed to print his story of the conquest of blindness—a striking record of victory over seemingly hopeless difficulties and troubles, reflecting in every line the cheery optimism of the man.

"The great secret of success in learning to be blind," wrote Sir Arthur, "is to insist upon doing everything possible for yourself.

"The plain fact is that the intelligent blinded person becomes more and more normal and less and less blind every year he lives. Blindness seems to have given us the genius to appreciate the essentials to human happiness which it is given to few sighted people to receive."

Letters to the Editor Christmas Cards

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

Having read Sir Ian's letter about Christmas cards in the REVIEW this month, I thought I would like to say how much I agree with his suggestion. These are difficult days for everybody and I am sure all the members of St. Dunstan's can think very specially of each other this Christmas, and will know the thoughts and good wishes we shall have for our friends will be far deeper than those found on any Christmas card.

WINIFRED BOYD ROCHFORD.

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

My wife and I have read Sir Ian Fraser's article about Christmas cards. Strange to say, we had discussed the matter and decided not to send any this year. We fully agree with Sir Ian's wise suggestion.

There is such a shortage of paper at the present time; also many of our St. Dunstan's friends have changed addresses. Even although there is no exchange of greetings, we know how close the large family of St. Dunstan's is to each other.

JAMES A. DUNLOP.

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

Because of the gravity of the struggle in which we are engaged, I suppose no detail is too trivial to receive consideration. For this reason I heartily agree with the suggestion made by Sir Ian in your last issue, that we should deny ourselves the pleasure of sending Christmas cards to our friends this year.

The conserving of our paper supplies, and the burden which Christmas greetings throw upon the Postal authorities—already working under many transport difficulties—are surely sufficient reasons for taking this course. Besides, the usual Christmas greeting would hardly seem appropriate in many cases this year.

If we could put aside the money which we usually spend on cards and postages at Christmas and invest it in War-Savings Certificates it would be a very practical way of helping forward the war effort.

S. A. CHAMBERS.

The Editor, "St. Dunstan's Review."

DEAR SIR,

I should like to support the Chairman's suggestion that all St. Dunstaners should abstain from sending their usual Christmas cards this year and, indeed, till the Christmas after we have won the war. As Sir Ian says, the sending of Christmas cards is a personal affair, and the non-sending of cards during the war should be made the personal concern of us all.

The staffs of the railways, the post office, etc., etc., are greatly reduced, and what with all the additional stress and strain put upon them, they have as much as they can cope with already. Till the war is over, the custom of sending Christmas cards is one that will be much better kept by the breach than by the observance.

Yours sincerely,

N. A. RAMSDEN.

★ ★ ★

Sister Paice sends greetings to all St. Dunstan's men and is not sending any Christmas cards this year, firstly, because she agrees with Sir Ian's suggestion, and secondly, because she has a full-time job running a very healthy Y.M.C.A. canteen for the troops.

Task of the A.A. Guns

From the "Yorkshire Post"

THE part anti-aircraft guns play in repelling enemy bombers was explained at a Press conference by a divisional anti-aircraft commander.

Anti-aircraft guns, said the officer, are not intended to defend towns as such. That is the task of the fighter 'planes. Guns are placed to protect areas so that enemy bombers can be prevented from reaching their objectives. The objects are to break up the enemy's formation, keep him at a great height, and cause him to change his course, thus making accurate bomb-sighting difficult if not impossible.

"The accuracy of our A.A. fire has improved enormously, not only since the last war but even since the beginning of this," said the officer. "For instance, at the beginning of this war the possibility of firing at unseen targets would scarcely have entered our heads. Yet we do it regularly now by the new method of prediction, and with remarkably good results.

"Nevertheless, although many 'planes have been brought down by A.A. guns, it is comparatively rare for one to be destroyed by a direct hit. Occasionally bomb racks have been hit and the 'planes blown to pieces, but as a rule our fire is more likely to damage the target than fetch it to the ground immediately.

"A few days ago, for instance, an enemy bomber was seen flying into the burst from an A.A. shell at 200 m.p.h. It came out of the burst at only 100 m.p.h.—obviously severely damaged, but not immediately destroyed.

"There is no doubt that many of these 'lame duck' 'planes never get back to their bases on the Continent. Some will crash on the way, and others, losing speed, are probably overtaken by our fighters and polished off."

The officer considered that the organisation of our A.A. defences, and in particular the accuracy of our A.A. fire, is ahead of anything the Germans could show. In some respects, the Germans are working on similar lines to ourselves, but he believed that up to the present the advantage lies with us. German pilots themselves have testified to the "incredible accuracy" of our fire.

The officer disclosed that blind men had been tested for the important jobs of listeners at searchlight stations.

Experiments were conducted before the war, both men blinded in the last war and men blind at birth being tried out. After a course of instruction in anti-aircraft work they were given practical tests as "listeners," and compared with "listeners" who had not lost their sight.

The result of the experiment was in favour of the "listeners" with sight, the apparent explanation being that the blind men lacked confidence.

"I have always found," said the officer, "that the best men for this particular job are men who in civilian life work in machine-rooms—weavers, for instance. They become accustomed to a noise that would deafen ordinary people and are able to pick out other sounds, such as conversations, quite easily. This serves them in good stead with us.

"On the other hand, as a 'plane spotter, who has to rely on eyesight, the poacher has everyone else beaten to a frazzle. I had one man—a confessed poacher—who was so good that, with a pair of glasses, he could pick out a 'plane flying at 15,000 feet and put the searchlight straight on to it.

"The explanation, I suppose, is that poachers are accustomed to the dark and to using their eyes to a much greater extent than the ordinary town dweller."

Roof Spotting

Detecting the approach of enemy aircraft is not dependent upon sight. Frequently visibility is so bad that the roof-spotter has to rely upon his sense of hearing alone. This fact has already been appreciated, and St. Dunstan's men are now among the ranks of roof-spotters. W. H. Lacey, of Edmon-ton, has established a reputation for himself locally, and T. Dickinson, of North Moulsecoomb, is assisting as an official spotter at a Brighton establishment.

Air Raid Victims

Our sympathy is extended to the following St. Dunstaners, who have been bombed out of their homes. All are very well and cheerful, and, with the exception of H. A. Dakin, who received slight neck injuries, all were unhurt. C. Blackett, F. C. Coates, H. H. Burnett, H. A. Dakin, P. Donegan, V. J. Fennell, A. S. Henderson, S. A. Kelly, T. W. Stratful, C. F. Thompson.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE HENRY SMITH
(*Sherwood Foresters*)

WITH deep regret we have to record the death of H. Smith, of Chesterfield.

Smith was discharged from the Army in 1915, and first came under St. Dunstan's care in 1917. His health was never very good, but he trained as a basket-maker, and he worked at this occupation up to the time of his last illness.

He had not been well for a very long time, and recently came to the Blackpool Home for a convalescence period. Unfortunately, he became seriously ill, and on medical advice was removed to hospital near his home. He died there after a comparatively short illness on October 21st.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and comrades. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

GUNNER JOHN WILLIAM WHITHAM
(*Royal Field Artillery*)

WE deeply regret to record the death of J. W. Whitham, of Dunsworth, Hull, which occurred on June 13th; we regret that the notice was unavoidably held over from last month.

Whitham was wounded at Messines in 1917 when, in addition to losing his sight, his left arm received injuries, causing it to be paralysed.

He came to St. Dunstan's in January, 1918, and was trained as a poultry farmer, and continued at this occupation for a number of years.

Some time before his death, serious trouble necessitated the amputation of his leg. He seemed to make a splendid recovery, however, and he came down to Brighton for a while, but he lost ground and died shortly after his return home.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's friends. We tender deepest sympathy to his widow and two children.

PRIVATE THOMAS WILLIAM MOORE
(*3rd Manchester Regiment*)

WE deeply regret to record the death of T. W. Moore, of Blackpool.

Moore served in India for some time, and re-enlisted in December, 1915. He was discharged from the Army on account of failing sight in 1917, but did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1923, when he was trained as a joiner. He continued with this work even after evacuation at the outbreak of the present war, arrangements having been made for him to carry on at his country address. His health, however, broke down a few months ago, and he died in hospital on July 25th.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian Fraser and his St. Dunstan's comrades. We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow.

GUNNER CUTHBERT MOLLOY
(*Royal Field Artillery*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of C. Molloy, of Rhyl.

Molloy enlisted when only 20 years of age. He received wounds at Arras in 1916, which completely destroyed his sight, and he came to St. Dunstan's shortly afterwards.

He was an excellent workman, and was trained in mat-making and boot-repairing, but for the last few years he had only done the lighter type of work—wool rug-making, and, finally, camouflage netting.

Towards the end of 1939, Molloy left his home town of Wigan and went to Rhyl, but soon afterwards his health began to fail.

During a short stay at Brighton, whilst receiving instruction in camouflage netting, serious trouble was diagnosed. He was admitted to the Sussex County Hospital, where an operation was performed, but he did not regain his strength. When our Hospital at Ovingdean was evacuated he was accommodated at Port Hall—Miss Boyd Rochfort was also there and they were a comfort to each other.

Just a short time before his death he was removed by ambulance to his home, where he died on October 20th. At his express wish, he was buried at Wigan.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

Birth

HOMAN.—To the wife of T. Homan, of Cork, on October 27th, a son—James Nolan.

Deaths

BULLEN.—We extend our deep sympathy to G. Bullen, of Brighton, whose wife has died after a long illness.

We regret to learn that the daughter-in-law and Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, of Norwich, died on November 1st, at the early age of 24.

Press Cutting

From the *Evening News*—

Bert Cutting, aged 45, is blind. But he earns a living for himself and a family of six by gathering mussel shells and, occasionally, low-grade pearls, at the bottom of the Wabash River at New Haven, Connecticut. He sells the shells to a button factory.

Cutting has stayed under water for as long as six hours in a helmet built specially for shallow diving.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

St. Dunstan's Remembers

ON another page is a note of the way in which St. Dunstan's remembered its Founder, Sir Arthur Pearson, on Sunday, December 8th, and Monday, December 9th, which was the anniversary of his death in 1921.

When Sir Arthur Pearson lost his sight shortly before the Great War, he gave up his many newspaper interests in which he had been both a pioneer and a leader, and devoted his rare talents and deep sympathy to the welfare of the blind.

By a great national appeal he set the National Institute for the Blind on a new course of national usefulness. Then came the war, and he founded St. Dunstan's, with a new spirit and a new outlook. Three thousand soldiers, sailors, and airmen, blinded in the Great War, passed through St. Dunstan's. Two thousand survive to this day and have benefited immeasurably by his insight and foresight, to which the Rector of Church Stretton, in a memorial address, paid tribute.

We remember his inspiration, his leadership, and his great gift of friendship, and we dedicate ourselves to see that the good he did bears fruit as well in what remains of our generation as for the young service men now entering our brotherhood as a result of this war. We will try to help them to Victory over Blindness, as Sir Arthur helped us.

More Bombs—But We Carry On

After the turmoil of the last few weeks, St. Dunstan's has again settled down. Let us hope that we shall not be bombed out again, at any rate for a time. Expert advice has been taken as to the state of our Headquarters building in Regent's Park, and we are told that this will cost a great deal of money and take some months to repair. If we were to repair it, there would be no guarantee that we should not be displaced again, for although severe bombing attacks are now spreading all over the country, London still continues to receive regular and damaging bombardments. We have therefore decided not to waste our money trying to rehabilitate the old Headquarters, but to do the very minimum that is necessary to keep the weather out, and repair it properly after the war, when we hope we shall receive compensation from the Government.

Nevertheless, I attach great importance to the prestige of our London address. "St. Dunstan's, Regent's Park," is known all over the world, and the goodwill attached to this familiar address from the publicity and money-raising point of view is very great.

We have found a solution of these differing needs by moving the bulk of the staff who deal with the men's welfare, accountancy, and routine matters to Tyttenhanger Park. I have already written to all St. Dunstaners in the United Kingdom telling them of this, but, as they say on the wireless, I will repeat the address: St. Dunstan's Offices, Tyttenhanger Park, London Colney, near St. Albans, Herts (Telephone No. London Colney 3128).

I have an office there personally and all letters addressed to me, or to members of the staff, about welfare matters generally—massage, poultry-farming, pensions, visitors, health, and applications for visits to convalescent homes, and so on, should be sent to Tyttenhanger Park. Londoners or those passing through London should particularly note the following: Namely, that they should not come to the old Headquarters in Regent's Park except when they want to see me personally, and then only after an appointment has been fixed. I have an office in Regent's Park because I have certain duties to perform in London, but I am not always there. I have to go to Tyttenhanger Park, to Church Stretton, to Melplash Court, to inspect our various establishments and direct their policies. The office in Regent's Park is exclusively concerned with St. Dunstan's appeal, and the only staff beside my own private secretaries and the editor of the REVIEW are those who undertake our publicity and appeal work.

Londoners and those passing through London who want to see a welfare officer, and who feel that Tyttenhanger Park is too far away, can go to Raglan Street, where Mr. Doughty and Mr. Taylor are in attendance to help them. To complete the picture, let me repeat what I said in my circular letter, namely, that Northern welfare is still conducted at Blackpool, and all trading is still going on at Raglan Street.

St. Dunstaners will remember that my own private house is next door to the Headquarters building. This was also affected by the many bombs which fell near it, so much so that eight or ten of the ceilings came down, and the roof began to let in the rain. My furniture was soaked and damaged, and I had to give it up as a residence. I have myself moved to a little house to the north of London, from which I can easily get in and out. Although my house was no longer fit for a residence, and I had to give up repairing it week after week, it is nevertheless still usable, and a few nails and boards have made it weatherproof for the time being. It is a small, compact unit, and it is at our own familiar address. We have therefore turned it into our Appeals Office, and it is full of typewriters and files, doing its share to keep St. Dunstan's going. I have lent it to St. Dunstan's, rent free, for the duration.

New St. Dunstaners Doing Well

Since I wrote my last Notes, I have visited the Hospital and Training Centre at Church Stretton. The new St. Dunstaners of this war are doing well. Many have already passed their typewriting test and some even their Braille test. When I recall how long it took me to pass my Braille test, I cannot help marvelling at the speed with which one or two young fellows have achieved this difficult task. This time we are not considering the old Braille test, which so many of us passed in the last generation, as being sufficient. I feel all old St. Dunstaners will agree with me that more prolonged study and practice is required. So we are instituting a further test, which every student will be urged to pass later on during his period of training. Two students are already learning massage. Mr. Toft, an old St. Dunstaner who built up a most successful practice in London, has joined the staff at Church Stretton, to start a course of massage and to teach Braille. The massage course will last a year and the students will then go on to the School of Massage at the National Institute for the Blind for the second year and to pass their examinations. Telephone operating has been approved as a career, and one or two have been selected for this course. Poultry-farming is still under consideration, and we have not yet concerned ourselves with handicrafts, except as a means towards preliminary re-education. The Research Committee which I set up some months ago to try and find jobs in industry and commerce which would afford a similar outlet to that provided by telephone operating has made a preliminary survey. Many factories and businesses have been visited, and the possibilities are interesting and promising, but it is too early to say much about this yet, and apart from this, none of the young men are yet ready to go out and try any of the jobs that may be found.

The trainees, as has always been the custom, will leave Church Stretton for a period at Christmas, and we shall use the place to provide a Christmas change and rest for a small number of men who have had a particularly bad time in London and other bombed cities, and who have stuck to their homes and work in spite of all difficulties.

I have also visited Melplash Court. This country house contains the permanent and bed-ridden St. Dunstaners who were at Brighton. They are cheerful and well, and many visitors from the neighbourhood come in to read to them and act as Good Companions. In addition, there are a number of men from London, Southampton, Bristol and the other provincial cities which have been recently bombed. The place is quiet, of course, being far away from any of the amenities and fun which used to be associated with Brighton, but it is a happy and successful place.

Interesting News Comes from South Africa

Hugh Stayt, a South African St. Dunstaner, has added a new and interesting job to his already varied life. He has done some good anthropological work, on which subject he has written a book which attracted considerable attention; he has followed with success the profession of masseur, and has had a considerable poultry farm. Now I hear he has been commissioned in the South African Defence Force, in the Reserve of Officers, with the rank of Captain, as a Recruiting Officer for the south coast district of Natal. Stayt is a good speaker and has always taken a deep interest in South African public affairs.

A. D. Kirstein has a flourishing massage practice, as well as a business in Johannesburg. He has been appointed Honorary Physiotherapist to the Defence Training Association.

These are both interesting appointments and I am sure all St. Dunstaners will join me in offering our congratulations.

Mrs. Chadwick Bates, Secretary of St. Dunstan's in South Africa, and I exchange a good many letters. We appreciate the deep interest she continues to take in all our problems and difficulties, and old St. Dunstaners will be glad to know that she is well and writes cheerfully. Mrs. Bates not only carries on most active and successful work for St. Dunstan's, but her experience has made her a leading figure in South African social and philanthropic life, and she is always being asked to lend a hand to various war efforts.

Christmas Wishes

The earlier part of these Notes was mainly concerned with our offices and the address to which St. Dunstaners should write in order to invoke the assistance of our many services. But this does not mean that the fate of our offices or our staff are our primary concern. On the contrary, the whole reason for the existence of St. Dunstan's is the welfare of blinded ex-Service men of the Great War and of this war, and our concern for offices and staff arises out of the fact that unless satisfactory arrangements are made for them the work of St. Dunstan's cannot go on.

I hear constantly from St. Dunstaners all over the country. I appreciate fully their many difficulties and the stout-hearted manner in which they are meeting and overcoming them. I know that this Christmas season can hardly be happy in the peace-time sense. All of us have growing anxieties around us, household difficulties to meet, rising costs to face, and our young people are in various theatres of war facing many hazards. I would like all St. Dunstaners to know that their welfare in their own homes, and the problems which face them and their wives, are constantly in our minds, and that we are always trying to plan ahead to do the best that lies in our power to carry on St. Dunstan's for them.

We have, however, much to be thankful for. Our Country and Empire has so far withstood all the enemy's attacks. We are growing stronger day by day, and in due time the clouds will lift and the sun break through.

In spite of anxieties, therefore, my wife and I wish all St. Dunstaners and their families the happiest possible Christmas and the best of good luck in the New Year.

IAN FRASER.

"In Memory of the Founder"

A LARGE contingent of St. Dunstaners, who are in training at Church Stretton, including men of the old war and the new, together with men of the fighting services, civilians whose eyes have been severely damaged in air-raids and who are in St. Dunstan's Hospital, were accompanied by members of the Staff of the Training Establishment of the Hospital to the morning service at the Parish Church. Special St. Dunstan's prayers were said, and the Rector's memorial message was as follows :—

"This is the date at which it has been customary for a Memorial Service to be held in memory of the Founder of the great and noble organisation for War-blinded men. It first took formal shape when a dozen or so of blinded soldiers started their training in March, 1915, in the old house of St. Dunstan's in Regent's Park.

"Now that we welcome a large contingent of St. Dunstaners amongst us in Church Stretton, and to our Parade Services in this Church, it is right and fitting that we should take note of this Anniversary, and pay a tribute to the memory of that remarkable man—himself deprived of physical sight, but endowed so richly with insight and foresight, the results of which, in the organisation he created, are more than ever manifest to-day. We can hardly do better than quote from the tribute paid to him by his worthy successor, Sir Ian Fraser :

"'Many of the problems of the old days,' he writes, 'together with a great many new ones, are being faced by the men and staff in the same old spirit which has fortified and strengthened us for a generation, and which we owe in such large measure to Sir Arthur. He laid the foundations well, and we are all of us proud to have built our own lives and the continuing life of St. Dunstan's upon them.'

"Let us stand for a moment in silence and grateful remembrance."

Amongst those present with the St. Dunstan's party were Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Mr. Davenport, Miss Pain, and Mr. Askew.

St. Dunstaners and staff from the Melplash Home attended the morning service at Melplash Parish Church on

December 8th to pay tribute to Sir Arthur's memory. The Rev. Pope officiated.

At Blackpool, the Rev. R. P. Wilson held a service in the Lounge of the Home, on December 9th. St. Dunstaners staying at the Home, and many living in Blackpool, were present, with their escorts and members of the Blackpool staff.

As has been the unbroken custom for nearly twenty years, a deputation of St. Dunstaners visited Hampstead Cemetery on December 9th and laid a large St. Dunstan's wreath, the gift of many St. Dunstaners, upon the grave of Sir Arthur Pearson. The deputation was led by Colonel Eric Ball, member of St. Dunstan's Council, and consisted of M. Burran and N. Downs, accompanied by Hall Porter Burgess.

A wreath was also placed on the grave from the telephonists of St. Dunstan's.

St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund

1/- Raffle

A BEAUTIFUL "baby" grandfather eight-day clock has been made by J. Burley, of Norwich, for the Comforts Fund. He has sent it to Church Stretton, to be raffled, but it is much too attractive to keep to one centre of St. Dunstan's activities, and with the help of the REVIEW, the raffle is open to all St. Dunstan's men, staff and friends.

The clock is 1ft. 8in. in height, with a base 6½in. by 3in. It is made in oak with a gold face, and presents a most charming appearance.

The price of the ticket is 1s. Will everyone who wishes to enter send their name, address and a postal order to me at St. Dunstan's Hospital, Church Stretton, Shropshire. The raffle will be open until the end of January, and the result will be given in the February REVIEW.

Church Stretton. MATRON PAIN.

Re Seeds and Seed Potatoes

The large and small seed packets will be sent as usual early in the New Year, but there will be various adjustments, caused by scarcity of seeds, etc. Broad beans and cauliflower seeds will be omitted.

Sister Goodey

Sister Goodey has again had to change her address. This is now : 188 Grove End Gardens, St. John's Wood, London, N.W.8.

Church Stretton Notes

Games

WITH the River Severn well over its legitimate bounds, the rowing season has come to an end. Thanks are due to the boys of Shrewsbury School, who have helped in coxing.

Football is as popular as ever (one enthusiast even kicking off his boot in his zeal). The usual crop of fancy names for teams has arisen, and we have "Long-mynd" and "Workhouse," both of which are very promising teams.

Dart-throwing is becoming more accurate, and far less perilous to the lookers-on. We hold our own at domino tournaments with the Sergeants' Mess and the British Legion.

Thanks to our chauffeur, Austin, who operates his own first-rate projector, wet Sunday evenings are enlivened by a film show in the Ball Room. "King Solomon's Mines" was an outstanding success.

Workshops

Our new St. Dunstaners have hardly had time yet to settle down to serious training for their subsequent careers, but preliminaries, like braille and typewriting, are being seriously tackled, and certain handicrafts are being taught for their re-educational value. In addition to basket-making and wool-rugging, we have started again on carpentering, and some good work has already been turned out under the skilful management of F. Ralph.

Braille

We congratulate H. Miller, A. Robinson, and H. Preedy on passing the Reading Test. The last-named won a silver Braille wrist-watch, which was offered by a blind lady as a prize for the first man from the new war who should pass the test.

Typing

Congratulations are also offered to the following, who have passed their Typing Test:—

R. Patterson, H. Preedy, J. Calder, E. Russell, L. Copeland, P. McMartin, E. Humphrys, W. Allan, J. Leeks, and Flying Officer Kitson.

Christmas Greetings

At Church Stretton we are all in agreement with Sir Ian's suggestion not to send Christmas cards this year, but we would

like, through the medium of the REVIEW, to send greetings and the best of New Year wishes to all St. Dunstan's men, and to the friends of St. Dunstan's.

New War St. Dunstaners

These are the first St. Dunstaners of the present war. Old St. Dunstaners will join with us in wishing them well.

	Age.	
ALLEN, Gnr. W. R.H.A.	... 28	Cardarthen
CALDER, W./Sgt.		
J. D.	... R.A.	... 28 Edinburgh
CAMPBELL, Fus. 1st Batt. Royal	22	Carrigallen,
P. ...	... Irish Fusiliers...	Co. Leitrim
COPELAND, Pte. Yorks & Lancs.	23	Sheffield
L.		
HUMPHRYS, Pte. 12th Queen's	58	Hook,
E. J.	... Own E. Surreys	Surbiton
	(T.N.D.)	
LEEKS, L./Sgt. R.A.	... 22	Dunfermline
J. R.		
McMARTIN, ... 2nd Seaforth	... 27	Linlithgow
Pte. P.	... Highlanders	
PATTERSON, ... 4th Batt. The	21	Dunfermline
Pte. R.	... Black Watch	...
PREEDY, Rfn. H. 2nd Batt. The	28	Stoke New-
	Cameronians	ington
	(Scottish Rifles)	
RUSSELL, Fus. E. 1/6 Lancs. Fus.	21	Leeds
STANLEY, ... 1/5 Leics. Regt.	23	Market
Cpl. G.		Harborough
TODD, Gnr. P. R.H.A.	... 28	Newcastle-
		on-Tyne
WAINMAN, ... 6th East Yorks	45	Hull
Pte. W. H.		

New War

Blinded Hospital Patients

CARLTON, Bomb Dis-	24	Manchester
Spr. W. C. ...		posol Section,
		R.E.
DICKERSON, ... 2nd Cambs.	... 19	Comberton,
Pte. F.	... Regt.	... Cambs.
KITSON, Flying R.A.F.	... 20	Chorley,
Officer E. K.		Lancs.
STEPHENSON, Royal Navy	... 42	Gillingham,
Petty Officer		Kent
W. N.	...	

St. Dunstan's Polish V.C.

The first Polish soldier at St. Dunstan's—Jan Lasowski, of the Chasseurs de Montagne—has been decorated by General Sikorski with the equivalent to the British V.C. for his conspicuous bravery at Narvik.

Lasowski was wounded at Narvik and totally blinded. He has been at St. Dunstan's Hospital since May 29th. He temporarily rejoined his unit somewhere in the British Isles a few days ago, but shortly will return to Church Stretton. Already he has learnt to converse in English, and is proving himself an apt pupil in the joinery shop.

Melplash News

ON Sunday, November 17th, 1940, a party of men from St. Dunstan's, Melplash Court, and several members of the staff, attended a special Armistice Service at Netherbury Parish Church.

It was preceded by a short ceremony, in which the local branch of the British Legion paraded at the village War Memorial, on which they laid a wreath, and then marched to the Church; at their invitation, St. Dunstaners took part in the proceedings, and marched with them to join in the special service.

A Friendly Offer

G. Fallowfield makes the suggestion that St. Dunstaners might give emergency accommodation to fellow St. Dunstaners who might be bombed out, before they are able to get into touch with St. Dunstan's. He puts his suggestion into practice by placing his house (57 Southview Road, Southwick), at the disposal of any St. Dunstaner between Brighton and Worthing. For many reasons it would not be practicable to publish in the REVIEW the addresses of St. Dunstaners willing to do this (for instance, an address given one month might be void the following month), but we have no doubt that, wherever possible, St. Dunstaners will be more than willing to give emergency help to their unluckier comrades. It is more than likely that some such arrangement has already been made between groups of men living in the same district.

National Egg-Laying Test

Report for the First Period of Four Weeks
21st October to 17th November, 1940

Position	Name	Test Score	Value
1	CAMPBELL, J. ...	...	122
2	CAPPER, A. H. ...	...	93
3	CARPENTER, E. H. ...	...	90
4	HOLMES, P. ...	...	82
5	FISHER, T. M. ...	...	80
6	FISHER, T. M. ...	...	79
7	HAMMETT, H. A. ...	...	69
8	HILL, R. E. ...	...	62
9	SMITH, W. ALAN ...	...	48
10	HOLMES, P. ...	...	35
11	CHAFFIN, A. ...	...	32

Five Reasons for Drinking

*If all be true that I do think,
There are five reasons we should drink;
Good wine—a friend—or being dry—
Or lest we should be by and by—
Or any other reason why.*

—HENRY ALDRICH.

The Christmas Spirit in the U.S.A.

EVERY Christmas morning, New England's flying Santa Claus, Captain William H. Wincapaw, loads up his 'plane with presents for the men who keep watch in lonely lighthouses and coastguard stations from Boston Harbour to Canada. Accompanied by his son and George Mason, of the National Aeronautic Association, he takes off with bundles containing cookies, tobacco, candy, magazines, books, and silk hose for the lighthouse-keeper's wife. Each package is attached to a parachute. As the 'plane passes over a station, Mason, who acts as "bomber," releases a package through the window to the people gathered below; spare packages are carried in case he misses aim. The Flying Santa covers more than a thousand miles in his nine-hour flight.

★ ★ ★

Few U.S.A. Navy traditions are so universally cherished as the annual Christmas party given for poor children by American battleships, cruisers, even some destroyers, in whatever port they happen to be. Started in 1915 by the crew of the battleship *New York*, the idea spread quickly and spontaneously until to-day, wherever one of the larger ships is in harbour, from New York to Shanghai, some lucky underprivileged children are assured a merry Christmas.

Early Christmas morning, about 100 boys and girls come aboard in the ship's launch. The band plays them over the side; they are greeted by the Captain and officers, then divided into small groups for the great adventure of going over the ship. Toward noon, all the youngsters gather on the quarter-deck, and Santa Claus himself comes aboard. Usually he roars out of the sky in a big amphibian, but occasionally the good saint comes up out of the depths in a diving suit. He distributes his gifts, warm clothing and toys.

When the excitement has calmed down a little, mess-call sounds for a turkey dinner. Songs and stories, comic stunts, sometimes a Punch and Judy show provide entertainment.

Late in the afternoon the youngsters are invited by the officers to the wardroom, where they are loaded down with fruit and candy before they are taken ashore at dusk.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

BARNES, Signalman Reginald (High Wycombe, late Folkestone), Royal Corps of Signallers.

BROOKER, Stoker (2nd Class) L. F., H.M.S. *Bridlington*.

CARTER, Sapper K. (Darlington), Royal Engineers.

CURTIS-WILLSON, Lieut. C. L., Royal Artillery.

DEWIS, Driver K., M.T. Company.

HOTSON, Pte. F., East Yorks Regt.

McLOUGHLIN, Pte. J., 7th Cheshire Regt.

MOORE, A/c 1, Michael, Limerick, Royal Air Force.

NELSON, Sapper H. R.

O'BRIEN, Pte. F. D., Hampshire Regt.

RENDELL, Sapper W. T.

Young St. Dunstaners

The son of W. T. Curtis-Willson, of Brighton, who was gazetted a second lieutenant in 1937, and was called up for duty a fortnight before the war commenced, is now a full lieutenant.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. F. James, of Hove, has, since his return from Dunkirk, been given his commission.

Robert Brogan is in Egypt and our St. Dunstaner and his wife were able to send him a message recently through one of Sandy MacPherson's broadcasts.

Doris Mary Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin, of Penzance, was married on November 16th to Richard H. Eddy, and Hetty Pinner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Pinner, of Peasedown, near Bath, married Frank Intern on November 23rd.

Rachel Stratton, daughter of F. Stratton, of Shirebrook, married Charles Thorpe on November 9th, and she and her husband are making their home with our St. Dunstaner, who lost his wife only a short while ago.

Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton, of Canterbury, has passed her matriculation. She is just fifteen.

Christine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Edwards, of Tottenham, has won a scholarship which takes her to Tottenham Grammar School.

More young St. Dunstaners who have joined the Home Guard: Dick and Kenneth Head (Brixton Combe), Wilfred Loran (Brixham), Leslie Brewer (Bristol), and Reggie Meader, Llangadock.

Sixteen-year-old Joan Fallowfield is a voluntary cycle messenger to the local A.R.P. services. She does two full nights weekly and is out in all raids.

Beatrice Robinson, of Welby, Grantham, has gained the School Certificate with four credits.

William Allen (Torrisholme), K.O.R.R., has won his first stripe.

Mavis Hazel, daughter of A. T. Hazel, of Merton Park, has been awarded a scholarship to Wimbledon High School.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Milliss, of Sevenoaks, has won his Artificers' Badge, and has now been transferred from the Royal Artillery to the 4th County of London Yeomanry.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Long, of Sheffield, was married on July 29th to Mr. Kettle.

A Christmas Competition

BELOW are eight questions. You are invited to answer as many as you can and to send in your replies to the Editor not later than January 6th, 1941. A prize of One Guinea will go to the sender of the first correct solution opened on that day. If no one sends a completely correct entry, the prize will go to the next best. Mark your envelopes "Competition" and address them to Regent's Park.

1.—What is the average length of life of a lion?

2.—Who wrote "Gone With the Wind"?

3.—In what year was Queen Victoria married?

4.—What teams were in the 1939 Cup Final?

5.—Who was the first President of the United States?

6.—Braille was introduced by a blind Frenchman of that name; what was his Christian name?

7.—What horse won the Derby in 1927 and who was his jockey?

8.—These letters form the name of a well-known soldier—who is it?

S I N E I D O R

Good Work

Mrs. F. C. Fleetwood, wife of our St. Dunstaner living at Herne Bay, has sent £116 0s. 6d. to the Air Ministry towards the cost of a bomber. It is the result of a collection she has organised in connection with the Women's Section of the local British Legion.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE WILLIAM JAMES GILBERT
(4th/6th Devonshire Regiment)

It is with deep regret that we have heard of the death of W. J. Gilbert, of Barnstaple.

Gilbert lost his sight while on active service, and was admitted to St. Dunstan's in 1918. He was trained as a mat-maker, but later spent time on propaganda work for St. Dunstan's. Of late years his health has been far from good, and recently he became practically an invalid. He was admitted to a local nursing home, where he passed away on October 19th. The funeral took place a few days later and was attended by a very large circle of relatives and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We send our very sincere sympathy to all members of Gilbert's family.

PRIVATE A. G. HERNE
(3rd Yorkshire Regiment)

With deep regret we record the death of A. G. Herne, of Rayleigh, Essex.

Herne's sight failed while on active service in India. He came to St. Dunstan's and was trained as a basket-maker, at which trade he worked most consistently. He always seemed to enjoy fairly good health, so that his sudden death on October 25th came as a great shock to everybody.

The funeral took place four days later. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Herne in her sad loss.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives, who have celebrated their Silver Wedding recently: Mr. and Mrs. F. Foster, Ottery St. Mary, November 24th; Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Briggs, Sheffield, November 30th; Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Cooke, Birmingham, December 4th; Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, Elwick, December 11th; Mr. and Mrs. R. Z. Hurrell, Groby, near Leicester, December 26th.

Parable of the “ Isms ”

We have received the following from an American friend:—

SOCIALISM.—If you have two cows you give one to your neighbour.

COMMUNISM.—If you have two cows you give them to the Government, and the Government then gives you some milk.

FASCISM.—If you have two cows, you keep the cows and give the milk to the Government, then the Government sells you some milk.

NEW DEALISM.—If you have two cows, you shoot one and milk the other, and then pour the milk down the drain.

NAZISM.—If you have two cows, the Government shoots you and keeps the cows.

CAPITALISM.—If you have two cows, you sell one and buy a bull.

Death of Lord Tryon

Lord Tryon, for so many years known as Major Tryon, M.P., died recently. He created a ministerial record by holding the same office, namely, that of Minister of Pensions, for over nine years. He visited St. Dunstan's on a number of occasions. The Chairman, writing to Lady Tryon, said: “ We remember with pleasure your husband's many kindnesses to St. Dunstan's men.”

Where Is Beauty?

*I must cling to the beauty in life,
In this dark, ugly season of strife;
With frightfulness raging and passion rampaging,
And bitterness everywhere rife,
'Tis hard to find beauty in life.*

*But music and literature
Are faithful and ever endure;
Sweet flowers and clear fountains, green hills and
grey mountains,
All nature is constant and sure,
Eternally, beautifully pure.*

*I must look to the hills for a guide,
For the light that is never denied;
While friendship unfailing, all virtue unweiling,
While faith, duty, love still abide,
Then beauty may dwell at my side.—R.J.V.*

Birth

JARMAN.—To the wife of T. Jarman, of Oxford, late of Bournemouth, on November 28th, a daughter—Hester Maureen.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 270—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Matron Boyd Rochfort, O.B.E.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING has been graciously pleased to confer an Honour on Miss Winifred Boyd Rochfort, the Matron of St. Dunstan's. Matron becomes an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire—O.B.E.

I cannot imagine any award giving greater pleasure to the whole of St. Dunstan's—men and staff alike.

Miss Boyd Rochfort has given her services to St. Dunstan's for just over twenty-one years, first as V.A.D., later as Assistant Matron, and finally as Matron, just about the time when the new Brighton Home was opened. I think this honour has more than a personal significance, for it records not only Miss Boyd Rochfort's own devoted and effective services, but calls to mind also all that has been done and is now being done for St. Dunstaners by V.A.D.s and similar staff.

I am sure all readers will wish to join with me in congratulating Matron Boyd Rochfort and in sending her our best wishes.

Mr. Swain Retires

Mr. T. Evelyn Swain has retired from the service of St. Dunstan's, at his own wish, on account of ill-health. Here is a letter from him to his many St. Dunstan's friends:—

TO MY ST. DUNSTAN'S FRIENDS,

Doubtless you will have read in the Chairman's Notes that I am retiring on account of ill-health.

After going to Blackpool in June I had a serious nervous breakdown, and because of this, and on my doctor's advice, I decided it would be better, in the interests of St. Dunstan's and my own, that I should give up my job.

The position is simply this: I feel that rather than carry on not doing my work as I think it should be done, owing to ill-health, it would be better to make the break now and get out. Sir Ian has met me over this with his usual understanding and sympathy.

I say farewell with the deepest regret to the work I have followed ever since leaving the Army at the end of the Great War. It had always been my ambition to carry on until the retiring age of sixty-five, but such is not to be the case. There is, however, one reflection which encourages me—since I've been on sick leave I have received countless messages of goodwill and good wishes for my recovery and a speedy return to work.

It is with genuine sadness that I say goodbye to my friends, especially as it is only a little over twelve months since returning to the Welfare Department, when I looked forward to coming in personal contact with you all again.

The recreation side of life nowadays seems to depend on memories, and I have some very happy ones, particularly of the early Reunions—the small friendly meetings we held in those days when I was rash enough to advise you on the management of wives.

Both Mrs. Swain and I do hope that should any of you be in this vicinity you will not fail to come and see us, and now—Good Health, Good Luck, and Safe Keeping to you and yours.

Very sincerely,

T. EVELYN SWAIN.

*Duck Bottom,
Haddenham, Bucks.*

I well remember Mr. Swain joining the staff soon after the Great War and taking charge of the Northern area of the After-Care Department, working from Liverpool. Later he came to London to take over the Managership of the After-Care Department generally. When Mr. Kessell retired, Mr. Swain was transferred to the Appeals Department, and when war broke out he returned to After-Care work again.

I am very sorry that the strain of war should deprive us of one whose experience and interest in the welfare of St. Dunstan's men might have continued to be of such value. I feel sure that St. Dunstaners as a whole would wish me to place on record their sincere thanks to Mr. Swain for the services he has rendered to them, and I should like to add my thanks for the very great help he gave me from the earliest days until now. We all hope he will enjoy many years of retirement and wish him luck.

Purchase Tax

St. Dunstaners who work at home are advised that the Purchase Tax does not apply to any goods they make and sell themselves. The reason for this is that small manufacturers and firms whose turnover is below £2,000 a year will not be taxed.

St. Dunstan's itself, however, has such a big turnover that goods we sell are subject to Purchase Tax. If, therefore, a St. Dunstaner orders an article from Raglan Street for a customer we shall have to charge him Purchase Tax, and he will have to pass the increased cost on to his customer.

Some of the raw materials we send out to our men are also subject to Purchase Tax because they are manufactured. St. Dunstaners will, therefore, have to adjust the price they charge the public for goods they make themselves accordingly.

It seems to me that two factors ought to lead to a steady improvement in local sales by our men. One is that there is beginning to be a shortage of materials. Many articles cannot be obtained through ordinary channels, whereas we are still able to supply reasonable quantities of materials to our men. To this extent our men should have an advantage, and should be able to pick up local orders. The second point is that our men should be able to sell articles they have made at a cheaper rate than shops, because the shops have to charge Purchase Tax. I advise all St. Dunstaners to work for local orders; they will be helping themselves by doing so and will be helping us by reducing the cost of carriage and handling of their finished goods.

IAN FRASER.

Church Stretton

IN spite of war-time conditions, we spent a cheerful Christmas here. The trainees left for a fortnight's holiday on December 16th, and their breaking-up party took the form of progressive games, ancient and modern, ranging from "Fishponds" to "Feeding the Fuhrer."

In their stead we welcomed old St. Dunstaners from the bombed areas, amongst whom were several from very early days, and soon the various generations from both wars were mingling freely and taking part together in all the festivities.

Sir Ian presided at our Christmas dinner. In the evening there were more games, the most exciting and most hilarious consisting of blowing up balloons and bursting them by sitting on them (this is not so easy as it sounds). All our visitors left this peaceful spot with regret, and hoped to have an opportunity to come again. It was most noticeable that the spirit of St. Dunstan's was being passed on, and links of friendship formed between the new men and the old.

We should like to thank all friends at Church Stretton who have shown us kindness since we came here in July. During the past month the Sergeants' Mess of the R.A. have entertained us twice, and their band gave us an excellent concert.

Miss Hubbard has brought her friends from Shrewsbury every week, not only as dancing partners, but also to give a dancing class. This she has promised to resume after the holidays. Mrs. Marshall invited a large party to dance at Brockhurst School, and the Women's Institute gave a social afternoon for some of the men. Our Good Companions come up cheerfully through rain, hail, and snow, and constantly bring new friends to St. Dunstan's.

Training Notes

Last month we stated that we had with us one of our first masseurs, E. Toft, to instruct the massage students in their first year's course. He has already started a small class, who are most enthusiastic in their appreciation of his painstaking and lucid tuition.

Our only other fresh activity during the month has been the formation of a Physical Training Class, which goes into action each morning before breakfast. This is held at

present in the Entrance Hall, but we understand that it will be out in the open when the mercury has risen a few degrees. We are fortunate to have the services of Sergeant Major Crosby, P.T.I., kindly lent by the R.A.

Congratulations to the following:—

BRAILLE.—A. H. Robinson, H. Miller, and H. Preedy, who have gained the N.I.B. Certificate for Braille Writing.

TYPING.—H. Gadd, G. Stanley, P. Todd, and P. Campbell, who have passed the Typing test.

New St. Dunstaners

New Service Case in Training: 2nd Lt. R. W. Slatter, Bristol.

Petty Officer Sailmaker W. N. Stephenson, who has already been mentioned as a hospital case, has now been transferred to training.

Civilian patients at Church Stretton receiving hospital treatment and early rehabilitation include:—

Mr. and Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. Simpson, R. L. Berry, L. A. Webber (A.F.S.), P. May, A. A. French, A. Wetheridge, Miss E. Davis.

Blackpool

IT was a very jolly Christmas indeed, and the fact that at times we had beds and mattresses in unexpected spots did not deter the "troops" from enjoying themselves or sleeping well.

Our festivities started on Friday, December 20th, when the R.A.F. Contact Concert Party gave us a very excellent show in the lounge. We have, as one of our very kind and useful Auxiliary Staff, Mrs. Cooke, who is the wife of Air Commodore C. B. Cooke, and it was with her help that we were favoured with such a delightful treat.

Squadron Leader K. Warrington brought the party and acted as compère. Sidney Torch directed the orchestra, and Len Stevens, of the B.B.C., accompanied at the piano. Robert Ashley sang beautifully, and Frank and Dave (of Variety) gave very comic turns. When I say that practically the very same performers were on at the Palace Theatre on the Sunday afternoon, and nearly brought the house down, you can well see that it was good. Now we have tickets sent every Sunday afternoon for the Contact show at the Palace.

On the Monday all who wanted to paid their weekly visit to the theatre. On Christmas Eve we had a jolly little dance.

On the Christmas Day breakfast table there was a very special packet at each place. A tie from Matron Boyd Rochfort—with greetings in her own handwriting. At 11 o'clock we had a very large gathering in the lounge—"troops," wives, kiddies, and staff—and everybody had at least one present from the Christmas tree—presented by Father Christmas. It was a very jolly break and caused much laughter—especially when Father Christmas gave Sister Peacock a special "greeting," and Sister Tippet was greeted with "I'm twenty-one to-day."

Fifty-three sat down for a delightful Christmas dinner, all went well, or should I say all went "down" well! Speeches were like the pudding—digestible and not heavy.

At night we had party games in the lounge—and anyone could tell by his drilling of the troops that Keville had been a hard-bitten sergeant.

On Boxing Night we danced, on Friday night there was a domino tournament, and on Saturday night came The Panto. It would be difficult to say who enjoyed it most—the "troops," the performers (who were the staff), or the visitors. Certainly it was a fine skit on the "troops," and they enjoyed the "ruderies" against themselves and each other.

Sister Keily wrote nearly all of the script, made most of the dresses (including the Queen's, which was *fashioned* from two uncut counterpanes), was stage manager, scene shifter, and played the dual roles of King and Witch (the little woman had a busy day). Sister Peacock made a very excellent nurse to the Sleeping Beauty (Miss Tippet), even though she did not set the child a strictly fine example of how a Princess should behave.

Mrs. McIntyre was the gallant Prince who travelled far to woo. The Queen was—just the Queen.

Sister Wilson was pianist, Jock Jack and his sax, Mrs. Morcom (auxiliary staff) and her two boys were the Orchestra. A collection was made for the Comforts Fund—but I hope we were worth more than we got.

On Sunday several went to the R.A.F.

concert in the afternoon, and in the evening we had a family concert in the lounge.

On Monday no less than fifty-one people left this house to go to the George Formby pantomime. It was rather a job shoos them out, but after they had gone the house was so quiet it reminded us of the hymn, "Peace, perfect peace, with loved ones far away."

Tuesday night, New Year's Eve, found us all gathered together for a very jolly dance, with a few prizes for—anything but good dancing. During the dance an announcement was made that as the panto had been so well received we had decided to put it on again. The announcement was well received—so were the six characters who pranced in in the costumes from the panto—J. Walch made a beautiful, though rather frivolous, Queen, W. Higginson a handsome Prince Charming, D. Bee as—*some*—Nurse, and T. Milner, W. Yarwood, and E. Marsden as not very 'umble subjects. It was a high-light of that evening. Just before midnight everybody went out through the back door and entered the front door—where they were greeted and re-welcomed in.

So ended our gaieties—and now we are hoping that 1941 will bring the Peace and Happiness we are all so longing for.

Melplash

CHRISTMAS at Melplash Court was a merry affair, with the traditional Christmas dinner, speeches, and games. In addition to our permanent St. Dunstaners, there were present men from some of the bombed areas, all of whom were determined to make the most of this strangest of all Christmases.

In a speech to the men just before Christmas, Sir Ian Fraser explained that Miss Mary Crossley, who had opened the Home for them and had become its Matron, had unfortunately had to resign to attend to her own family affairs. Sir Ian expressed sincere thanks from St. Dunstan's and all the men at Melplash for her efficient and devoted service (applause).

He hoped Miss Crossley would return to work for St. Dunstan's later, but meantime Mrs. Sutcliffe, who used to be Sister in Charge of the lounge at Headquarters, was taking over the matronship.

R.A.O.B. News

Bro. J. Dixon, K.O.M., of the Watford Lodge, has been raised to the Fourth Degree—the highest Degree it is possible to attain. Our St. Dunstaners' sponsors spoke highly of the work he had done for the Order. After the ceremony, he was presented with a full set of regalia, and a regalia case in recognition of his services to the Lodge.

A Near Thing

C. Marshall, of Southend-on-Sea, has been as near a bomb as he ever wants to be. The people next door moved away when the raids began, and the landlord sent a jobbing gardener to cut the long grass. While he was doing it, his cutting tool struck something hard. It was an unexploded bomb. It was three yards from Marshall's workshop!

Bombed Out

F. R. Aubrey, E. E. Bryer, H. Birley, W. Burns, J. Deegan, A. Gaffney, W. Girling, F. Kneller, W. Joyce, E. Marsden, and H. F. Porter are among those who have suffered air-raid damage in the last month. All, however, are well, and the majority will be able to return to their homes, if they have not already done so.

If You Leave Your Home—

Our Social Visitors are experiencing difficulty in finding St. Dunstaners who, perhaps only temporarily, leave their homes to take refuge with relatives following an air-raid.

It would be a great help if, in such cases, a note could be nailed to the door, or other prominent part of the building, saying briefly where they can be found. Incidentally, this is also useful in connection with the forwarding of letters.

The Purchase Tax

In view of the introduction of the Purchase Tax, the prices of St. Dunstan's goods have had to be adjusted. A new price list is now available, and any St. Dunstaner who needs a copy for use in connection with private orders should send a post card to Mr. Doughty, at St. Dunstan's Sales Department, Raglan Street, Kentish Town, N.W.5.

To the West Yorkshires

We have received a Christmas and New Year card of good wishes from the W.O.s and Sergeants, I.T.C. (West Yorkshire Regiment) to "Ex-Members of the West Yorkshire Regiment, St. Dunstan's."

Wireless Talks

Two new series of broadcast talks—always of special interest to blind listeners—have just begun. While they are intended primarily for discussion groups, one particularly is likely to appeal to a far wider audience. This is "U.S.A."—a series of twelve weekly talks on Mondays, from 7.40 to 8.0 p.m., in which speakers will tell the story of the New World and of the United States—from the pioneers to the Civil War and from the Civil War to the present day.

The other series, dealing with the drama, is called "Curtain Up!" and will consist of twelve weekly talks on Fridays, from 7.40 to 8.0 p.m., beginning on January 17th. A feature of this series will be plays and scenes acted by well-known actors to illustrate points made in the talks.

Hurricane Pipes

We are advised by the makers of Hurricane pipes, who have generously supplied St. Dunstaners in the past with these excellent pipes at half-price (5s. 3d.), that they must, with regret, now add the Purchase Tax to this amount, making a total of 7s. 10d.

The Garden Path

*I had to make a garden path
With little bits of stone;
Nobody would be asked to help,
I'd do the job alone,
And show them what a man I was
At putting down a path;
I'd teach them not to smile at me;
I'd teach them not to laugh.*

*The job was done; it seemed to be
A very neat affair;
But was I tired? Just cockled up
And laid out in a chair;
My wife came out and gave a glance,
I raised a hopeful head,
She said it WAS a crazy path,
And packed me off to bed.*

R.J.V.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

BARNES, Signaller R. W. (High Wycombe), Royal Corps of Signallers.

BALLANTYNE, Boy Angus, R.N.R.

BROOKS, Jean (Haywards Heath), W.A.A.F.

HUNTER, Ord. Seaman Keith, R.N.

LAW, Private J. M. (Gotherington), R.A.O.C.

MACPHERSON, A-C. J. (Windsor), R.A.F.

NEWTON, L-Bdr. S. (Cosham), R.A.

PATTINSON, Sapper O. J. J., Royal Engineers.

Young St. Dunstaners

The son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Leonard, of Broadstairs, has been promoted to 2nd Lieutenant.

★ ★ ★

Having passed his final examination, Edwin Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Brooks, of Bournemouth, is now rated A.B. He is only 18, but already has many older men under him.

★ ★ ★

Francis Thomas Durkin, who is 19, has been promoted from Aircraftman First Class (A.C.1) to Leading Aircraftman, in the R.A.F.

★ ★ ★

Eric Maskell, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Maskell, of Rochester, has obtained his wings and a commission as Pilot Officer in the Royal Air Force, with two distinctions. He is believed to be the youngest cadet to get a commission from Cranwell, and, furthermore, he got it in the record time of six months from the date of joining up.

★ ★ ★

Martin Sheridan's ship was torpedoed, but all is well, and Martin, who is in the Merchant Service, is back on a ship again.

★ ★ ★

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Clare's son, Douglas Gordon, who is a Sapper in the Royal Engineers, was married at the end of December to Miss Doreen Tucker.

★ ★ ★

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Mellor, of Addiscombe, was married at Kidderminster recently to Mr. Roland Gray.

★ ★ ★

Donald Greaves (Oldham) is now captain of the school cricket and football teams, and, like his father, Jack Greaves, is a fine swimmer—the best in the school.

At Reigate Grammar School Speech Day, Dennis Coles, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Coles, obtained prizes for French and German.

★ ★ ★

Nine-year-old Mary Wheeler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Wheeler, of Newbury, has won a scholarship to Christ's Hospital.

★ ★ ★

Caroline, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Matthews, of St. Helens, has won the M.R.A.D. diploma (dancing).

★ ★ ★

Dolly Shepherd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Shepherd, of Sheffield, was married on December 22nd.

★ ★ ★

Gladys Brooks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. R. Brooks, of Brenchley, has passed the Final State Examination and her name has now been approved by the Council for entry in the State Register of Nurses.

★ ★ ★

Joan Aubrey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Aubrey, of Bristol, was married to Mr. Frank Hadley, on October 26th.

★ ★ ★

Phyllis Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Morgan, of Tredegar, married Gunner N. O. Chew, of the R.A., on November 29th.

★ ★ ★

Ruth Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Williams, of Gwehelog, was married to Mr. A. C. English, on December 4th.

★ ★ ★

Albert, the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Oldfield, of Sheffield, was married on December 28th, and Vivien Irene Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Smith, of Blakenall, was married to Mr. Jack Farrow on January 5th.

Killed on Active Service

We extend our deep sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. M. Carey, of Tottenham, whose son, Daniel, died on December 10th from wounds received while serving in the Western Desert.

Prisoner of War

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Williams, of Hampton, who was previously reported missing, is now known to be a prisoner of war in Germany.

On Taking Notice

WHEN you are reading, do you take notice of the mistakes made by the author, particularly in the case of detective "thrillers"?

I remember reading of a man trapped in a room who could not open the window for some time, then the catch flew back and, the author goes on to say, the upper sash crashed on his thumb. Now the upper sash falls outside.

In the *Green Archer*, Edgar Wallace says Featherstone has an electric torch with which to look at some thermometers. He chases a girl, takes her unconscious to a house; next day the servant tells the girl she found the floor littered with spent matches; no doubt he was trying to find a cuff-link. What was the matter with the electric torch?

In *A Study in Scarlet*, by Sir A. Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes from the upper window of the Baker Street flat, describes a man as an ex-sergeant of the Marines, who is seen on the opposite side of the street. This proves to be correct, and in reply to Dr. Watson, Sherlock says he could see the tattooed anchor on the back of the man's hand. That same morning, ten minutes later, Dr. Watson describes the weather as "London was enveloped in a dun-coloured fog." Well, well, how did Sherlock see the anchor? In chapter seven of the same book it says Detective Lestrade sat down and said, "It seems I have dropped into a council of war." When asked to give an account of himself he drops into a vacant seat. Now if he'd sat down, how could he drop into a vacant seat?

In another short story a craft was first a schooner, then a brig, and again a yawl!

These blunders are frequent in what should be the most correctly-written stories, yet in those humorous yarns by W. W. Jacobs and Guy Gilpatrick, you will find the descriptive work absolutely correct, and the rig or build of a craft faultless. The whole atmosphere is splendid in these humorous stories.

Two good books I have read and could not find a mistake in, however, were *The Double Event* and *It Happened in Essex*.

There are also mistakes in Braille, too. I read one "Dirty firemen formed a guard of honour." Upon reflecting I came to the conclusion this should have been *thirty* firemen, etc.

GEO. FALLOWFIELD.

National Egg Laying Test

Report for the Second Period of Four Weeks, November 18th to December 15th, 1940

Position	Name	Test Score	Value
1	Campbell, J. ...	...	233
2	Capper, A. H. ...	...	208
3	Holmes, P. ...	...	195
4	Carpenter, E. H. ...	...	145
5	Hammett, H. A. ...	...	143
6	Fisher, F. M. ...	...	140
7	Fisher, T. M. ...	...	125
8	Smith, W. Alan ...	...	119
9	{ Chaffin, A. ...	...	97
	{ Hill, R. E. ...	...	97
11	Holmes, P. ...	...	79

From Matron

MY DEAR BOYS,

First of all I want to thank you more than words can say for your wonderful letters and telegrams of, kind congratulations on the Honour I received from His Majesty the King. It was all so unexpected and, I really felt, so undeserved, as the years I have spent at St. Dunstan's have been such exceptionally happy ones and the joy of knowing I could be of some help to you has given me more pleasure than any honour. At the same time I do feel, in acknowledging me, it has also been an acknowledgment of all the splendid Staff who have worked with me. I can assure you its value is greatly intensified knowing it has come to me through you all.

And now for a little postscript to thank you for all the lovely cards, calendars and letters of good wishes I received at Christmas, which came unexpectedly, knowing our war-time arrangement of "No Cards."

On Christmas Day my thoughts were much with you all, and in my imagination I popped in and out of your various homes, drinking your health and that of your brave sons and daughters serving their country, especially those who were unable to be with you. I thought it was to my credit that I got back to my bed in Ovingdean without my nurse having discovered my imaginary escape!!!

I am struggling hard to regain my health and strength, so as to be back with you all again.

My very best wishes—my thanks and love to each one of you, your wives and families.

From

Your affectionate friend,

WINIFRED BOYD ROCHFORD.

Port Hall,
Brighton.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE ALFRED LANE
(*Monmouthshire Regiment*)

With deep regret we record the death of A. Lane, of Cardiff.

Lane lost his sight early in the Great War, and as a result was admitted to St. Dunstan's, where he was trained in boot-repairing and mat-making. He continued at these occupations for some years, until ill-health forced him to give them up. Of late years, his health had been anything but good, but his sudden illness and death came as a great shock to his wife and family. He died on December 15th.

The funeral took place a few days later and was attended by relatives and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Lane and her family in their bereavement.

Mr. J. F. HAZELDINE

It is with deepest regret that we have heard of the death of “ Joe ” Hazeldine.

Blinded before the last war, while serving in the Army, he came to St. Dunstan's in its very early days, and hundreds of St. Dunstaners will remember him as a teacher of Braille and typewriting at the Home in Portland Place, Brighton. Later he was transferred to the Appeals Staff, working with Jock Boyd from his Brighton office. He was with him as recently as a week before his death, which took place on January 9th.

He leaves a widow, a daughter, and two sons, one of whom is in the Royal Navy and the other in the Merchant Service. We extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Hazeldine and her family, and to Jock Boyd, who will miss him greatly.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following:—

BATEMAN.—To Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Bateman, of Birmingham, who lost their son on January 1st.

HINTON.—To A. S. Hinton, of Malvern, whose wife passed away on December 19th.

Marriage

ROWLEY—JORDAN.—On January 11th, A. Rowley, of Hunswick, Co. Durham, to Mrs. Jordan.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following St. Dunstaners and their wives upon the celebration of their Silver Wedding: Mr. and Mrs. H. Payne, Cardiff, November 24th; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McKenna, Manchester, November 29th; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Yuile, Glasgow, December 28th; Mr. and Mrs. L. Calvert, Ormskirk, January 5th; Mr. and Mrs. W. Macpherson, Brighton, January 19th.

Competition Corner

The correct solution to our Christmas Competition was as follows:—

(1) Forty years; (2) Margaret Mitchell; (3) 1840; (4) Portsmouth and Wolver-

hampton; (5) George Washington; (6) Louis (Braille); (7) Call Boy—jockey, E. C. Elliott; (8) Ironside.

The first completely correct entry opened was sent in by A. Thompson, of Sprotborough, and the prize of One Guinea has therefore been sent to him.

This Month's Competition

Arrange the figures 1 to 9 so that they count 15 every way—upwards, sideways, and obliquely.

Ten shillings and sixpence for the sender of the first correct solution opened on the closing date, February 6th. Entries to Regent's Park, please, with envelopes marked “ Competition.”

If You Are Interested—

A bullet, fired straight up in the air from a rifle or Bren gun, takes about nineteen seconds to reach its extreme height—just over 9,000 feet—and about thirty-five seconds to come down again.

Old-time Election Humour

Heckler: I would rather vote for the devil than for you.

Candidate: Quite so, but as your friend is not standing, why not give your vote to me?

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 271—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

FEBRUARY, 1941

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

MISS WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD, O.B.E., the Matron of St. Dunstan's, died on the night of Saturday, February 8th. The great family of St. Dunstan's all over the Empire, the men who were blinded in the war and their wives and families, the staff—and particularly those who worked at Brighton—and all who have helped or visited St. Dunstan's and have seen Matron, so charming, so kind, so dignified in her long blue uniform with the flowing white cap, or who have heard her sweet voice, will sorrow at her passing.

I wrote last month that His Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to confer upon her the honour of Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for her long and devoted service to St. Dunstan's. This formal act on the part of the King was followed by one of personal kindness which gave Matron very real pleasure, for the King, knowing that she could not obey his summons to attend at Buckingham Palace to be invested with the Order, sent the Jewel of the Order to her at Brighton.

You will read in other pages of this REVIEW of her fitting funeral service. Members of Miss Boyd-Rochfort's family, representatives of all aspects of St. Dunstan's, headed by Lady (Arthur) Pearson, our President, were there.

Miss Boyd-Rochfort held her great office in St. Dunstan's greatly, and she was truly loved by all who worked with her and for whom she worked. All in St. Dunstan's feel that we have lost a best friend, but her spirit of service goes on, and her nobility of character, serenity of mind and rare combination of dignity, humility and humour will be a cherished memory to us all.

I HAD a talk with the new St. Dunstaners at Church Stretton a few days ago. The Editor thinks that a report of this talk will interest old St. Dunstaners on account of the reference to War Pensions and also because it may call to mind our own early days at St. Dunstan's. I think this may be so, and have given permission for the talk to be printed this month as Chairman's Notes.

As the war proceeds and the number of new St. Dunstaners increases, the REVIEW should reflect more and more their activities and experiences. If necessary, we will enlarge the REVIEW, but we must try and save paper and labour in the national interest as far as we can. I am sure that old St. Dunstaners will be glad to share the space in the REVIEW with the new, and will be interested to read of their problems. If any St. Dunstaner, young or old, cares to write me any thought or suggestion or constructive criticism arising out of this talk, I shall be only too pleased to receive it.

IAN FRASER.

It has been my practice for many years to speak to St. Dunstan's men wherever they are gathered together for a few minutes about various matters of interest, and to invite them to ask me questions afterwards. I propose to continue the practice as long as it is agreeable to you and we find it useful.

Rationing

We are now beginning to suffer some of the inconveniences—I won't say hardships—of rationing. Meat is particularly scarce.

I think you will agree with me that it is the duty of all of us to put up with these inconveniences as cheerfully as possible, because we know that the saving of shipping on our rations makes a direct contribution towards the better supplies and armament of our troops in distant theatres of war. The shipping problem is a very serious one indeed—I will go so far as to say that it is the most anxious problem the Government and the country have to face at the present time, and any contribution we can make which will perhaps help towards the clearing up of the position in the Mediterranean—if, for example, we could drive Italy out of the war and avoid having to keep such large fleets in the Mediterranean, it would be an enormous difference to the whole military and naval outlook.

I learnt that all of you are putting up with the shortage of meat and other good things in a cheerful and understanding manner, and I should like to offer you my congratulations and thanks for this.

War Pensions—Old and New

One word about pensions and allowances. I am not satisfied with these. You know that the rates which are payable to people who have lost their sight in this war are a few shillings lower than the rates payable to those who lost their sight in the last war, and there are other discrepancies. My view is that the pensions rates for the two wars should be the same, at the higher level. More than this, I think the time has come when even the higher, old rates should be increased to meet the extra cost of living at the present time. The Government does not agree with this at present, and has said that we must wait until the cost of living figure gets a good deal higher. I do not think it is our duty to quarrel with the Government, or engage in any public campaign or propaganda about this. We do not want to show people in our own country or the enemy abroad that we have disagreements amongst ourselves. But, on the other hand, a free Parliament exists amongst other things for the purpose of voicing complaints, and I shall continue to press the matter on the Minister personally and in Parliament in the future, as I have done during the past year. You will all realise, of course, that the Government has to face the possibility of enormous casualties, military and civilian, and that it must necessarily hesitate before setting a standard which, should the numbers be very great, could not be maintained. I will keep you informed from time to time how this matter progresses, and I am sure of two things—first, that no harm but much good is done by continually bringing the matter forward, and secondly, that in due time Parliament will listen to us and do something for us.

We Are Proud of St. Dunstan's

There were three thousand men blinded in the last war; two thousand of them still survive and are scattered all over the Empire. St. Dunstan's and its affiliated organisations



MISS WINIFRED BOYD-ROCHFORD, O.B.E.
Matron of St. Dunstan's



looks after the interests of all. We are the biggest brotherhood of the blind in the world ; we are very proud of our record and spirit, and we feel sure that the young men who are now joining us will not only benefit from St. Dunstan's but will be proud to belong to such a splendid organisation. I am equally sure that the younger men will not only benefit, but will themselves make a great contribution towards the strength of St. Dunstan's. You will learn new things about blindness, and will teach them to us in your own good time.

Meanwhile, there are certain experiences we older men have had, and certain conclusions we have reached about blindness, which we will try to pass on to you for your consideration, in the hope that they will be helpful. Blindness is such an unusual disability, and the number of blind people in the country is relatively so small—less than one in a thousand—that until we are blinded ourselves we have not much experience in the matter. A very large proportion of the blind population in civil life is old ; very many are unemployable, and most are poor. The probability is therefore that if we personally have met or remember any blind people in the past we are not encouraged by what we remember of them. But we were young in our day, and you are young now, and with youth and adaptability in your favour, and St. Dunstan's—or for the civilians, the National Institute for the Blind and other agencies—to help and advise, there is a useful and happy future for all of you.

Learning to Be Blind

Do not hurry your training, and do not worry unduly about the future. Make the most of your early lessons here and from time to time members of the staff and I myself will be available to talk over the future with you, and give you the best possible advice.

The first thing to do is to learn to be blind, and this means learning to move about, to read and write, and look after yourself. The spirit in which these problems are tackled is the essence of the whole matter. We do not want to look upon blindness as a calamity which puts us out of the world, but rather as an opportunity of investigating and learning about a new and interesting world in which we can make our way. Try to look upon blindness as a handicap which diligent effort and ingenuity can reduce and even overcome.

Try to think normally and to be normal in every possible respect. The world is full of kindness and friendship, but it does not come like manna from heaven ; you have to seek it and give out of your own store of good nature and kindness to get it in return. In talking to strangers, or to your own friends or relations, whom perhaps you have not met since you were blinded, it is up to you to make the conversation and the relationship easy. Old friends or strangers will be shy of you, just as perhaps you are shy of them. You must break down the barrier by showing that you are not only taking your knock courageously and cheerfully, but that you have an easy manner and that there is nothing to stop easy conversation. Do not hesitate to talk about blindness—not to make a song and dance about it, but to put the people you are with at their ease.

I have been very pleased to learn how many of you get about this building and up to the workshops and round the island by yourselves. It is very important to do this as much and as often as possible. You will get a grand feeling of independence and pleasure when you have undertaken a difficult walk alone. Ask a V.A.D. or an orderly, or one of the more skilled blind men here to show you the way ; go carefully over the route, feeling every yard of it, and trying to get a picture in your mind of what it looks like, where the turns are, and so on : then try it alone, a little bit at a time, going further and further as you get confidence. I advise you to use a stick at first, and perhaps always to use a stick out of doors, but give up the stick in the house as soon as you can, as it is not natural or normal to have a stick in the house. Do not hesitate to feel your way about, to examine the doors and walls with your hands, to look for the railing or the wire with your stick. Do not be sensitive lest somebody should happen to see you. If they do they will not think you are making a fool of yourself ; on the contrary, they will admire you for trying to get on, and very soon you will get on.

Later, as you get confidence, try and study the matter of looking as normal as possible as you move about. Pay great attention to your clothes, your hair, your shaving, and your appearance generally. The world half expects the blind to be untidy. They say, "Poor chap, he can't do any better." This is not true, and it is tremendously worth while for your own self respect, as well as for the impression which you make upon other people,

to take very special pains about looking smart and being well turned out. This is not a matter of money, but a matter of trouble. In particular, do not let blindness be an excuse for carelessness or slackness about shaving. If you once allow yourself to make the excuse that you need not shave because you are blind, you will be doing yourself and St. Dunstan's and all blind people a very great dis-service.

I have been amazed and very pleased at the efficient and quick way in which you have many of you found your feet. Already some have passed the typewriting test, some even the braille test, and all of you seem to me to be getting on splendidly. This is partly due to the splendid efforts of the staff who, from top to bottom, have done the very best they can to make the atmosphere right and to provide the means for your recovery and education. I am sure you would wish me to express sincere thanks to all of them. But it is mainly due to your own good sense and courage and determination, and to your cheerful spirit. This is not a house of despair, but a house of hope. You have made it so, and I offer you all my congratulations and my very good wishes.

Appointments

Mr. D. W. Ferguson will in future conduct all the work of the Poultry Department from an office in the grounds of St. Dunstan's, Church Stretton. He will continue to supervise the welfare of all St. Dunstan's poultry farmers, the work of the technical visitors, and will establish at Church Stretton a small poultry farm for the production of food for St. Dunstan's Hospital. One or two new blinded soldiers who desire a country life will be taught on this farm and may help to run it as a model.

Mr. L. Banks, Pensions Officer, is also moving his office to Church Stretton. All pension matters relating to old St. Dunstaners and new will be dealt with there.

Mr. F. T. Dickie, Chief Accountant of St. Dunstan's since war broke out, has resigned to take up another appointment. Mr. W. R. Grant has been appointed Chief Accountant in his place.

In view of Mr. Swain's retirement, which was announced last month, Miss M. K. Wilson has been appointed Acting Welfare Superintendent, Northern Area.

In view of the great increase in property and estate difficulties, owing to the war generally, and the bombing of many of our men's houses, Mr. Day has been moved from the office of Welfare Superintendent, Southern Area, to assist Mr. P. Lale, head of the Estate Department. Mrs. M. Paul has been appointed Acting Welfare Superintendent, Southern Area.

St. Dunstaner Matriculates

Congratulations to Dennis Pettit, of Northampton, who has passed his matriculation examination. He is a shorthand typist, and has studied for the examination in his spare time.

Good Wishes from New South Wales

The following cable has been received by Sir Ian Fraser:—

"Between now and victory our thoughts are with our blinded comrades in the Old Land. All good cheer.

N.S.W. BLINDED SOLDIERS."

Sir Ian has sent an appreciative reply to our friends in New South Wales.

St. Dunstan's, Junior A Tribute to New Comrades

*Ye sons of men we knew in days of old,
Brave scions of a noble island race,
Now is the time appointed to be bold
And new-born love and duty fast embrace;
'Tis not my plan to land you to the skies
In high oration, true, but undesired;
Sufficient that your gallant enterprise
Reveal ambitions that were ne'er aspired.
From those around you, let the grace you gain
Be magnified a-many on your part,
That loving dears ones see the virtuous strain,
And glad rejoicing ease their anxious heart;
Fear not to walk where others on before
Have carved a road that leads to victory,
Lit by their torches, full a hundred score,
With here and there a tree of memory.*

*Tread firm the road, that they who follow you
May find it smoother for your passing now;
Hold high the torch and keep the end in view,
Till lasting joy reward the early vow;
And with that joy your inward light shall grow,
Burning with fine and clear sincerity,
Casting its beams abroad with radiant glow . . .
The will within that shapes a destiny.*

*So shall the flaming torch rise even higher,
Kindling a beacon that shall not expire.*

R.J.V.

Church Stretton Notes

CUT off by ice and snow from the rest of the world, we have been thrown back on our own resources for amusement. An American tournament at Darts involved nearly 7,000 throws and much calculation, and brought to light many champions hitherto undiscovered, but the foremost event has been the formation of our Debating Society. This meets every Tuesday evening to thrash out knotty questions, under the chairmanship of E. Toft, with H. Miller as Chief Whip. The subjects so far discussed are:—

(1) It would be to our advantage if America entered the war.

(2) Lord Haw-Haw is an asset to us.

(3) England was justified in entering the war when she did.

On each occasion one or more have summoned up enough courage to make their maiden speech, and it is hoped that they will continue to make some contribution at future debates. So far, ladies have been debarred from entering the precincts, and none have risked the cry of "I spy strangers." Now, however, they have been invited to debate, on Shrove Tuesday, on any subject they may choose, and are looking forward to the clash of arms.

Special thanks are due to all those friends who have braved the elements and visited us this month: To Mr. Chandler and his daughter and Mr. Burton, who gave us a very enjoyable concert on the 26th, and honourable mention should be made of the two "A.T.S." who walked over from Shrewsbury and back again . . . past snowed-up vehicles of all descriptions.

Congratulations to the following—

G. Stanley, who has passed the Braille Reading Test.

W. Carlton and R. L. Berry, on passing the Typing Test.

New Admissions

Service Case—Gunner R. Dow, aged twenty-one, R.A. (Auchleeks, Perthshire).

Civilian Case—Mr. E. J. Wright.

Two civilians, J. Barker and L. Wetheridge, have left us and are now under the care of the National Institute for the Blind.

Comforts Fund

The raffle for the "baby" grandfather clock, made by J. Burley, of Norwich, and presented to the Comforts Fund, has been a great success. Requests for tickets have come from all over the British Isles and Ireland, and the Committee of the Fund would like to send a hearty vote of thanks to all those who have so generously supported the raffle.

Four hundred and twenty-six tickets have been sold, and the handsome sum of £21 6s. paid into the Fund. H. Nelson, of Trowbridge, is the lucky winner of the clock. Many congratulations to him. We feel sure he will be delighted with the prize.

The needs of the Comforts Fund grow steadily, as the following figures show:—

Number of names, 393; Number of parcels sent, 360.

From Mr. Swain

To my St. Dunstan's Friends.

I do want to thank all of you who have been kind enough to write to me regretting my resignation and expressing warm wishes for my future.

Your letters have contained many delightful references of the ways in which I have helped you, and while they are far from being deserved, they are nevertheless immensely appreciated.

I am conveying my thanks through the medium of the REVIEW because your letters have been so numerous that I dare not attempt to answer them personally—much as I would like to do.

Yours sincerely, T. EVELYN SWAIN.

Tribute to Mr. Swain

In a letter to Sir Ian Fraser, T. North, of Cannock, expresses the feeling of indebtedness which he says will be shared by so many St. Dunstaners to Mr. Swain for his long and devoted service. He would like this to be placed on record as coming from one of the boys.

Miss Morris

Miss Morris, whom everyone hoped was rapidly getting better in Cornwall, is unfortunately back into plaster again. She is, needless to say, as cheery as ever, but everyone will send their good wishes to her and their sympathy in what must be such a very trying time. "My love to all I know," she writes,

Matron Boyd-Rochfort

BELOVED by St. Dunstan's men all over the Empire, who had known her first as a V.A.D., then as Assistant Matron, and finally as Matron, Miss Winifred Boyd-Rochfort, O.B.E., died on Saturday, February 8th, at Port Hall, St. Dunstan's Annexe, Ovingdean, after a lifetime spent in their service.

By her own wish, she was buried at Brighton and Preston Cemetery, in the lovely corner set aside for the men of St. Dunstan's, and where Miss Thellusson lies.

Nearly a hundred St. Dunstaners gathered together on February 12th at the Chapel Royal, Brighton, where the funeral service was held, but the thoughts of two thousand St. Dunstaners were with them in that tribute to her dear memory.

The simple choral service included her favourite hymns, "Nearer, my God, to Thee," and "Jesu, Lover of my soul," and the Rev. R. M. Raper, Vicar of the Chapel Royal, and Chaplain of St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean, gave the Address.

Mr. Raper spoke movingly of the deep sense of loss among St. Dunstan's men and the friends of St. Dunstan's everywhere. He spoke of Matron's grace and infinite understanding, her tender sympathy, and her gentle, lovely soul. "But I want to remind you," he said, "that the very things which made this radiant woman so lovable and so loving are things which are untouched by death. . . . She was one of the noblest women it has ever been my privilege to meet. Her most radiant spirit made itself felt on all who knew her. Such a light as hers will remain untouched by death, for in a sense her great work in this world was accomplished, for she drew the source of her inspiration from the Fountain of all Goodness and of Light itself."

The coffin was draped with the Union Jack and upon it rested St. Dunstan's tribute, a wreath of poppies and white chrysanthemums, in the form of St. Dunstan's badge.

Dr. Leonard Marsh and Mr. Anderson Shaw were at the organ.

The family mourners were Colonel Harold Boyd-Rochfort, D.S.O., M.C., Captain Cecil Boyd-Rochfort (brothers), Mrs. E. V. Malone (sister), also representing her mother, Miss M. O'Reilly and Miss V.

O'Reilly (nieces), and Mrs. Kennard and Mrs. Barton (cousins).

Lady (Arthur) Pearson, D.B.E., President of St. Dunstan's, Captain Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Lieut.-Col. Eric Ball, Miss D. A. Pain, Miss B. Vaughan Davies, Sister Bradley, and Mr. W. G. Askew represented St. Dunstan's.

Among others present were Dr. E. L. Fyffe, Medical Officer, St. Dunstan's, Ovingdean; Mr. J. Boyd, representing St. Dunstan's Appeals Department; Mr. T. H. Panton, representing St. Dunstan's Technical Staff; Mr. G. Smith, representing orderlies at St. Dunstan's Headquarters; the Rev. H. M. Harries, Rector of Telscombe; Councillor C. J. M. Whittaker, M.C.; Mr. W. Yeoman, Hon. Secretary of the St. Dunstan's Grocers' Entertainment Committee; Miss Morley, representing Brighton Grocers' Association; and Mr. J. F. Miller.

There were many beautiful flowers. They included wreaths from Lady (Arthur) Pearson, Sir Neville Pearson, Sir Ian and Lady Fraser, Colonel Eric Ball, Miss Hamar Greenwood, "All the Men of St. Dunstan's," the Staff at Church Stretton, the Men at Church Stretton, St. Dunstan's Massage Advisory Committee, "The Padre" and Mrs. Raper, Dr. E. Chittenden Bridges, Dr. and Mrs. E. L. Fyffe, Commander and Mrs. Paul, her Old Boys and Staff at Melplash, Men and Staff at Blackpool, and Office Staff, Blackpool, Norman Macauley "and all her boys in her own Emerald Isle," Staff at St. Dunstan's Headquarters and Stores, Orderlies and Staff, St. Dunstan's, Staff of Port Hall, and Inmates of "Still Waters."

The Chairman and others at St. Dunstan's have all received very charming letters from so many of the men and others interested in St. Dunstan's. There is not space to quote from them all, but readers may be interested to read the following letter from the Bishop of Chichester:—

"MY DEAR SIR IAN,

I do indeed grieve with you and all at St. Dunstan's at the great sorrow which has come to you in the death of Miss Boyd-Rochfort. What a wonderful life to have lived, and what wonderful work to have done. It makes one thankful—as well as sad—to know how full of blessing for others her whole character and service were. With deep sympathy,

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE CICESTR:—"

The following are but a few extracts from the many other letters received:—

"My wife and I feel, as all who knew her must feel, that we have lost a very dear friend. There is no one who has met her who does not feel so much better for having known her."

"It was her cheery 'Good morning,' and the simple grace at mealtime that made us think that we were one large family, cared for by one mother. To-day we mourn the loss of the greatest-loved Matron St. Dunstan's has ever had."

"Many of us would never have met such devoted and unselfish women had we not come to St. Dunstan's. Knowing them has been a great blessing, and their passing is irreparable loss. I venture to say that we shall always be grateful for having been allowed to know them."

"Matron was a wonderful lady."

"Her life was surely devoted to the men of St. Dunstan's, and we knew, and appreciated this."

"I have thought much about her . . . I had such happy times in her company."

"She was a symbol of all that was best and dearest in her untiring spirit of devotion to us fellows. Her memory will shine throughout the years."

APPRECIATION

While it is impossible to place on record an adequate acknowledgment of the truly great and most faithful services which our late beloved Matron has rendered to St. Dunstaners during her twenty-one years' service, what every St. Dunstaner can do, however, and that with absolute certainty, is to testify to the loving, kind, and ever-thoughtful qualities which Miss Winifred Boyd-Rochfort so constantly and so very naturally displayed.

During the whole of her twenty-one years' service, each and every one of us shared alike all that this most kind and gentle lady had to offer; none served us better, none more equally.

By her consistent efforts of trying to pour all the happiness she could into our lives, she won the love, admiration and respect of us all.

All had hoped that by the New Year her condition would have improved sufficiently to enable her to attend Buckingham Palace, where the well-earned O.B.E. was to be bestowed upon her by His Majesty. Unfortunately this was not to be. It is gratifying, however, to know that she lived long enough to see the Jewel which was taken to her.

Thus did this most radiant character pass on after achieving the most worth-while thing any one can do by leaving this world than she found it.

Like her beloved friend, Matron Thellusson, and the many others who have served us so well in the past, as well as those who still are serving us so admirably—all have beneficially influenced our lives and assisted greatly in forming our character by their noble examples of unselfishness and service to others.

TERRY RODEN.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

BUCHANAN, A.C.2 H. E. (Matlock), Royal Air Force.

DAVIES, Arthur (Middlesbrough), Green Howards.

GIBB, Ivor Dennis, Royal Berkshire Regt. (Young Soldiers' Bn.)

GIBB, Mary Ryland, F.A.N.Y.

JEROME, Edna J., W.A.A.F.

JEROME, Clare, Women's Land Army.

SMITH, A.C.W.2 Brenda (Leicester), W.A.A.F.

STANLEY, A.C. W. A. (Stony Stratford), Royal Air Force.

HERITAGE, Godfrey, Royal Air Force.

News of St. Dunstaners

Our sympathy to J. Macpherson, of Windsor, who was one of a number of shop-keepers who were victims of a miserable trick played upon them by a man claiming to sell confectionery. Macpherson bought three gross of chocolate macaroons, which were apparently all right when he bought them. The next day, however, they smelt so badly that he called in the police. A police chemist said they were cones filled with mashed potato paste, flavoured with cocoa and coated with dessicated cocoanut. They were mouldy. The man—H. H. Lowe—who admitted that he knew nothing about making confectionery, was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

✱ ✱ ✱

F. L. Green, of Gosport, who was married to Miss Margerie Barnes, on January 1st, has had the misfortune to have his house bombed. He now lives at Stubbington, near Fareham.

✱ ✱ ✱

Our sympathy to W. H. Bedford, J. T. Briggs, E. Bradford, J. J. Brooke, T. Aden, J. Gillibrand, W. T. Harris, C. Greaves, J. Hornsby, C. R. Houghton, B. Inman, A. Jenkinson, J. T. Lath, T. McDonough, A. Oldfield, W. J. S. Pearce, G. Strutt, J. Roughley, F. J. Shepherd, E. Shillito, and J. W. Savory, who have been unlucky in the recent "blitzes." All are safe, and only one, B. Inman, suffered any injury. He was slightly burnt about the face.

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H. Smy is doing his bit by helping on a Government farm for a few weeks, ditching.

✱ ✱ ✱

In the item, "Command Performance," on the Forces programme on Sunday, February 9th, was a request from W. Ward, of St. Leonards, who asked for the march of the 2nd East Surreys. "As a St. Dunstaner," wrote Ward, "I can't take a very active part in this war, but I can keep cheery." The announcer quoted from this letter and thanked our St. Dunstaner for the calendar he had enclosed.

Killed in Action

We have heard with deep regret that Corporal A. J. Hornsby, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Hornsby, of Sheffield, has been killed in action. He was twenty-seven years of age, and had served with the Colours for nine years.

“ In Memory ”

CORPORAL GEORGE COLBECK
(*Royal Field Artillery*)

We very much regret to record the death of G. Colbeck, of Louth.

Colbeck enlisted in March, 1914, and was wounded in France by the explosion of a gas shell. As a result his sight was seriously damaged, and he was discharged from the Army in March, 1918.

He was trained at St. Dunstan's as a basket-maker, at which trade he continued to work until within a very short time of his death, which took place unexpectedly at his home in Louth on December 31st.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was among the many flowers. Colbeck leaves a widow and four children, to whom we extend sincerest sympathy.

PRIVATE GEORGE HARRIS
(*Royal Army Service Corps*)

We record, with deep regret, the death of G. Harris, of Leeds, at his home on January 16th.

Harris enlisted in April, 1915, and although discharged from the Army, having lost his sight as a result of an accident in 1917, he did not come under St. Dunstan's care until 1922. An elderly man then, he only learnt netting, and for the last few years of his life, not being a fit man, he took things quietly and easily.

Harris had no relatives other than his wife, but the many flowers at the funeral bore tribute to the affection and respect in which he was held in his district. A wreath from Sir Ian and comrades was sent.

Mrs. Duffy, wife of our St. Dunstaner, G. Duffy, attended the funeral. Duffy himself was unable to be present owing to illness.

We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Harris in her great loss.

Deaths

We extend our sincere sympathy this month to the following :—

HALE.—To H. W. Hale, of Croydon, whose wife died on February 11th, after a long illness, most cheerfully borne.

McCOLLESTER.—To J. T. McColester, of Rossendale, whose mother, with whom he lived, passed away on January 20th.

MURRAY.—To J. Murray, of Brighton, who lost his wife on January 18th.

SHAKESPEARE.—To W. Shakespeare, of Birmingham, whose wife died on February 9th, at Stratford-on-Avon.

* * *

Mrs. Barnett, widow of our St. Dunstaner, J. Barnett, of Stoke-on-Trent, died on December 30th. She survived her husband only by a few months.

Marriage

GREEN—BARNES.—On January 1st, at Gosport, F. L. Green, of Gosport, to Miss Margerie Barnes, of Woodlands, near Southampton.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Bateman, of Birmingham, who celebrated their silver wedding on January 15th; to the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Gibb, whose anniversary falls on February 16th; and to Mr. and Mrs. H. Mortimer, who celebrated theirs on February 7th.

Competition Corner

Sammy Webster, of Horley, is the winner of last month's competition, and 10s. 6d. is being sent to him. The solution was :—

8 1 6
3 5 7
4 9 2

This Month's Competition

How many words can you find that can be written by two letters of the alphabet; example: ICY—IC. Send your words and letters on a postcard, mark the number of words found, and send them to the Editor at Regent's Park not later than March 6th. 10s. 6d. to the sender of the best list.

From the "Evening Standard."

A South African newspaper has been comparing the war with the first innings of a cricket Test Match. Scores of the various countries are indicated by the number of days they officially held out against the enemy attack.

Following is the score to date :—

P.O. Land, c Stalin, b Hitler	...	...	10
C. Slovakia, c and b Hitler	...	...	0
A.U. Stria, run out	...	...	0
D. Enmark, run out	...	...	0
N. Orway, c Quisling, b Hitler	...	...	62
H. Olland, retired hurt	...	...	3
B. Elgium, st Leopold, b Hitler	...	...	17
F. Rance, c Musso, b Hitler	...	...	294

G. Britain and D. O. Minions are not out; America has still to bat.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 272—VOLUME XXV [New Series]

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PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

St. Dunstan's and the Legion

ST. DUNSTAN'S and the Legion have many interests in common. Both are ex-servicemen's organisations with a patriotic service tradition. Both strive to keep alive the comradeship of the Great War, and both are interested in the welfare of ex-service men of this war. Both work for the disabled and represent to our Governments the claims of pensioners. The Legion's advocacy has often helped St. Dunstan's, and Sir Ian Fraser's recent plea in Parliament for better pension conditions for blinded men and their families is bound to help forward similar claims for other severely disabled men.

For many years now there has been an agreement under which St. Dunstan's receives a small percentage of the Poppy Day collection. The object was to avoid St. Dunstan's having a separate flag day, which would compete with Poppy Day. St. Dunstan's and the Legion are administratively and financially separate and each is free to collect funds in any way that best suits its work, save that St. Dunstan's does not collect round about Poppy Day and the Legion does not compete with St. Dunstan's house-to-house collections.

The last Agreement ended after the Poppy Day of 1940, and the principles of a new Agreement for the next ten years were passed by the British Legion Conference at Whitsuntide, 1940, and by St. Dunstan's Council at about the same time.

We are glad to publish this special British Legion number of the REVIEW to record these many points of common interest between our two organisations, and we are happy to think that the agreement and the good relationship that has gone with it is to be perpetuated for a further period.

The thanks of St. Dunstan's go out to all Branches and Members of the Legion and of the Women's Organisation, which have shown a deep sympathy for, and have given constant help to, blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen. Our Chairman has frequently urged St. Dunstaners to join the Legion, and many are members, some occupying important offices in national and local Councils and as officers of Branches. On another page of this issue appear messages from prominent members of the Legion, including Major Jack Cohen and Captain William Appleby, who have done so much to help us at St. Dunstan's. The St. Dunstaner, old or new, can do a good turn to other ex-service men by joining his local Legion Branch, and he himself will gain much by making a circle of congenial and helpful friends.

Sir Arthur's Old School

St. Dunstan's has received a donation—the result of a collection in the School Chapel—from the Headmaster of Eagle House Preparatory School, Sandhurst, Camberley. The Headmaster wrote: "It is accompanied with the warmest good wishes of the Boys and Staff of Eagle House, to all at St. Dunstan's. It is also sent in proud remembrance of the late Sir Arthur Pearson, who was a boy at this Preparatory School from 1877 to 1879."

Deaths of Good Friends

St. Dunstaners will learn with regret of the death of Mr. G. A. J. Oliphant, father of Miss D. J. Oliphant, St. Dunstan's Visitor for the West of England. With his wife, Mr. Oliphant had taken a keen interest for many years in St. Dunstan's men, and was a frequent visitor at Reunions, and, in 1938 and 1939, at the Warminster Camp.

St. Dunstan's was represented at the funeral by Mr. Sheehan, Mr. and Mrs. Overill, Mr. Wilkins, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Nelson.

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St. Dunstaners have also lost a good friend by the death of Mrs. Watkin James, of Burgess Hill. During the last twenty years she has regularly entertained our men. She lost her own sight about ten years ago.

Among the wreaths was one from Mr. and Mrs. L. Howell, and men of St. Dunstan's, and St. Dunstaners were also represented at the funeral by Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cornwall and Mr. and Mrs. Howell.

Only six days after the death of his wife, Mr. Watkin James also passed away.

Mr. George Smith

As we go to press we learn with the deepest regret of the death of Mr. George Smith, who has worked at St. Dunstan's Headquarters for many years, and will be remembered with affection by hundreds of St. Dunstaners who have met him at Regent's Park. An appreciation will appear next month.

Marriage

ADAMS—URRY.—On September 21st, at the Methodist Church, Doncaster, A. Adams, of Doncaster, to Mrs. Urry.

St. Dunstaner Killed in Air Raid

We have heard with deep regret that W. Pugh, of Islington, and his wife, were killed in a recent air-raid. This is the first fatal casualty at St. Dunstan's.

Other News

F. Frank, of Yeovil, writes that one of his brothers, Captain T. V. Frank, of the Merchant Service, has been decorated by the King with the M.B.E.

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Ten St. Dunstaners, J. Brown, M. Burran, N. Downs, H. Gover, H. Kerr, T. Meredith, P. Nuyens, T. Roden, W. Taylor, and A. Waite, met for lunch last month at a private room at Victoria, when it was unanimously decided to carry on with Bridge wherever and whenever possible.

A vote of appreciation to the Bridge Club Committee, who arranged the meeting, was proposed by T. Roden and seconded by P. Nuyens.

★ ★ ★

Silver Weddings.—Congratulations to the following, who have recently celebrated their anniversary: Mr. and Mrs. H. Carpenter, King's Langley, December 7th; Mr. and Mrs. W. Buckle, Eastcote, December 23rd; Mr. and Mrs. J. McDonald, of Oldham, February 26th; Mr. and Mrs. F. Fleetwood, Herne Bay, February 28th.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

AITKEN, Pte. R., R.N.F.
BOULTWOOD, Sapper A. G., R.E.P.S.
BROWN, Lce.-Corpl. A. C. (Nuneaton), R.A.S.C.
CROOK, A.C.2 J. H. (Shrewsbury), Royal Air Force.
DAVIES, D. W. (Cardiganshire), Royal Air Force.
DUNLOP, Gunner J., Royal Artillery.
GOUNDRILL, Owen, Royal Air Force.
GLENDENNAN, Fusilier A., R.F.I.
GLENDENNAN, Pte. H., Essex Regt.
HOLMAN, A.C.2, Royal Air Force.
LANGHAM, A.C.2 C. E., Royal Air Force.
LAW, Pte. J. M., R.A.O.C.
LAWLOR, P. J., Royal Navy.
LENDERYOU, Gunner A. F., Royal Artillery.
LENDERYOU, Corporal P. E., East Surrey Regt.
MECKIN, O/C. Robert, R.N.
MITCHELL, Janie (Portslade), A.T.S.
McAVOY, John, Merchant Service.
SAMWORTH, Kathleen, Women's Land Army.
SHINNERS, Gunner J. C., Royal Artillery.
SHINNERS, Lily, Women's Land Army.
SHERIDAN, Tony, Royal Artillery.
TATTON, A.B. E., Royal Navy.
WAINMAN, James, Royal Navy.
WAINMAN, Harry, Royal Navy.

Church Stretton Notes

LADIES' Night on Shrove Tuesday was the occasion of a lively debate on the rival merits of the Theatre and the Cinema as an educative influence. The guests, in supporting the claims of the Theatre, were ably led by Nurse Gayner, seconded by Nurse Corrie, Jnr. Mr. Davenport was in the chair, which E. Toft had vacated in order to lead his force in favour of the Cinema, having J. D. Calder as his lieutenant. In vain they marshalled their arguments. Every thrust was parried by Nurse Gayner with remarkable deftness. Her Amazons backed her with such well-directed blows that several waverers deserted from the other side and joined her ranks. Among these was T. Rogers, who taunted the Cinema as a retrograde influence, through which the fountain of pure English was defiled. He drew a woeful picture of the modern child, who greets his revered parent in such phrases as "Gee, Pa, you're a Wow"! In vain the rival derided him as "Tough Guy Rogers"!—the battle was lost, after nearly everyone present had struck a blow, and the ladies, as champions of the Theatre gained the day, or rather the night, by 30 to 22—(this last figure including the two hands of the losing leader, which were raised in a last despairing effort)!

The Royal Army Pay Corps has entertained us twice—on the first occasion at a Concert, followed by tea, and on the following Sunday a Concert at the Home.

On the 9th we had another splendid Concert from the Central Ordnance Band, and on the 19th the Sergeants' Mess entertained us. Mr. Chandler and his daughter also gave us another of their ever-popular Musical Evenings.

We congratulate the following, who have passed their tests :—

Braille Reading Test: E. Russell and J. D. Calder. **Typing Test:** F. Dickerson and W. Stephenson.

The following changes have taken place at Church Stretton during the last month :

New St. Dunstaners.—F. Dickerson (now discharged from the Hospital); B. Cole, Eltham.

New Service Case (Hospital).—G. C. McWilliam (21), Glasgow, Royal Navy.

New Civilian Cases.—J. Abraham (rehabilitation), Mrs. Mayoh (Hospital).

P. May (Civilian) and J. Leeks (Service Case) have now left St. Dunstan's and have recovered useful vision.

Listen-in—

To the Anniversaries feature in the Forces Programme on Wednesday, March 26th, at 11 a.m.

Testimonial to Mr. Swain

A NUMBER of St. Dunstaners have suggested that his friends amongst the men might wish to subscribe for a presentation of some small gift to Mr. Swain, as a token of their regard and affection. It will be remembered that Mr. Swain recently retired from St. Dunstan's service after twenty-two years of work. During the greater part of this time he was connected with the After-Care side of our work, and was friend and adviser to hundreds of St. Dunstaners and their wives and families. Amongst those who have specifically communicated with the Editor are T. Meredith, a telephone operator, who asked that the matter should be mentioned in the REVIEW, T. North, of Cannock, who writes: "I thought that it would be very nice if all the St. Dunstan's boys would give a small donation towards a farewell gift for Mr. Swain, to show that we appreciate in a small way all that he has done for us," and H. Birley, of Salford, who writes on behalf of St. Dunstaners of the Manchester and District Sports Club: "We should like to place on record our appreciation of the past services of Mr. Swain, and our regret at the loss of his services; we therefore wish all can subscribe towards purchasing a suitable present as a token of respect."

The Editor is glad to announce that Mr. Askew has kindly offered to receive subscriptions from St. Dunstaners and to act as Honorary Treasurer of the Presentation Fund on their behalf.

Personal

Colonel Boyd-Rochfort, D.S.O., M.C., Capt. C. Boyd-Rochfort, and Mrs. Malone wish to thank all those representing St. Dunstan's, and the many men of St. Dunstan's, for attending the funeral of a beloved sister, and their adored Matron, and for all the beautiful flowers.

At Miss Boyd-Rochfort's express wish, Mrs. Malone, her sister, has handed to Lady Fraser as a keep-sake and memento the Gold Whistle that St. Dunstan's men gave to Matron the Christmas after she took office at Ovingdean.

House of Commons Pensions Debate

IN the House of Commons on February 18th, Sir Ian Fraser asked that Great War Pensions should be increased and that new war pensions should be raised to the same level, and that wives' and children's allowances should be paid in all cases. Sir Walter Womersley, Minister of Pensions, replying, said the Government could not do this at present, but he would consider wives' and children's allowances if Sir Ian Fraser would submit a scheme.

The following are points from these speeches :—

Sir Ian Fraser said : " In 1919 some kind of settlement of the war pensions problem was made. The cost of living then stood at 215 points, as compared with the 100 which was taken as the 1914 normal. Since then the cost of living has dropped, until at the lowest point in the great slump it went as low as 136. Just before this war broke out it had risen to 155 ; it now stands at something over 196. In answer to representations which I and others have made, the Minister of Pensions himself has said that when the cost of living figure gets back to 215, the Government will consider raising the pensions of the veterans of the Great War. I am grateful, at any rate, for that, but I should like something more.

Since 1919 the whole standard of living of working-class people has changed. What was a luxury then has become in many a working-class home, if not a necessity at least something that is habitual. In spite of that, I am of the opinion that the disabled soldier, sailor, or airman would have been willing—I would almost say he would have been glad—to have continued to receive his low fixed income throughout this war, had he known that other people were to continue to receive their pre-war incomes also. But that is not what the Government have done. May I give one or two figures. The lower-paid Government servants have had their incomes raised by about 5 per cent. Miners have received an increase of 3s. 2d. a shift. The railwaymen have had an increase of 13s. a week. Soldiers, sailors and airmen had considerable increases before the war, and an extra 6d. a day in the last few months ; the amenities which they receive have also increased *pro rata*. I am not grudging any of these people their

increases. I am only pointing out that consumption goods are limited, and that an increase given to one must be at the expense of all. In the field of social service, too, old age pensions have been increased ; unemployment benefit has been increased by 4s. a week, unemployment assistance by 3s., workmen's compensation by 5s., and children's allowances have been added. Thus we see that in the fields of employment, and of help given by the State, or through other channels, to those who are unemployed, material improvements in the money received has taken place. But my friends have been left with their pre-war standard.

Now about this war. A private soldier totally disabled in the Great War receives £2 a week flat-rate pension, but a man similarly disabled in this war receives 34s. 2d. I ask the Minister to make both pension rates the same.

There is one other point. If pensions are to be reduced for this war, officers' pensions, everyone would agree, should be reduced similarly with those of the men. But owing to some old tradition, an officer used to be pensioned differently if he was wounded leading his men in the face of the enemy and if he was injured while attending to a dump of ammunition ten miles behind the line. In assessing officers' pensions for this war, the Government have deliberately chosen the lesser of the two rates, and have then made a greater percentage deduction from that than in the case of the man. This is a double injustice.

Now I come to what I think is the most important criticism of all. The practice in pensions administration has been to pension the soldier, sailor or airman, having regard to his responsibilities at the time when the pension was recommended. No additional pension is given if he marries subsequently, or has children subsequently. That is contrary to the interests of the man concerned, and contrary to the interests of the country. No one could care for such a man better than a good wife. She can guide, tend, and help him, and do more than anyone else to make his life happy and compensate him for what he has lost.

Will the Minister consider recognising wives and children for severely disabled pensioners whenever the men marry, with safeguards to prevent abuse—such as the deathbed marriage? It has been done in the Dominions.

I do not wish to make a sentimental appeal for the men who have been disabled in former wars or in this war, but, knowing the old soldiers very well, I would say that they are a group of men who rendered their service willingly in their time, and are still amongst His Majesty's most loyal, patient, and deserving subjects."

The Rt. Hon. Sir Walter Womersley, Minister of Pensions, in reply, said:—

"With all the sympathy in the world there are certain points beyond which you cannot go, if you are to do your duty by the public at large and by those who have to find the money. My responsibilities in this war are far beyond those of any previous Minister of Pensions. I have to deal with pensioners of the last war and also with the victims of the present war. On top of that, there are the Mercantile Marine men and fishermen, which were not dealt with by the Ministry of Pensions during the last war. Then I have the whole of the Civil Defence volunteers, who embrace a tremendous number of people. Now we have added to that responsibility for the Home Guard and the civilian population.

The one thing that I am afraid of is that if we overload the camel, it will fall down, and those who are now benefiting will suffer. I give my pledge again to the British Legion and other representatives of ex-service men that as long as I am Minister of Pensions I shall not agree to any reduction of the old rate for the veterans of the last war.

Here I should like to correct a statement which has been made on several occasions, though not to-day, that pensions given to those who suffered in this war are lower than pensions given to those who suffered in the last war. That is not true. The rate of pensions during the last war was less than we are paying in this war. The higher rates came into being in 1919. The settlement made then was that there should be a sliding scale. If the cost of living dropped below 215 points, there should be a reduction below £2 a week. But when the cost of living fell very materially in the slump the Government, recognising the debt due to those who had served, did not enforce the reduction. The other side of the settlement was that if the cost of living rose above 215 points by five per cent., or 11 points, there would be an increase."

Sir Ian Fraser intervened to ask, "Does

this mean the increase will be automatic, without delay?" Sir Walter Womersley said "Yes."

Sir Walter then emphasised the importance of training disabled men and finding them employment. "I pay my tribute to the work which my Hon. and gallant Friend has done," he said, "in training those who suffer from blindness. Men have been trained at St. Dunstan's and have been able, although blind, to go into the competitive world and earn a good living. I am glad to say that he and his Committee have agreed to take the blind men of this war, and do the same on behalf of my Ministry as St. Dunstan's did in the last war. Apart from doing the right thing in giving a pension, employment is most important to disabled men."

The Minister also said that if and when pensions were increased he would consider increasing attendant allowances also.

Regarding the new war pensioners, the Minister said the rates had already been increased once, and he had given a pledge that he would review them again when the cost of living rose substantially.

The Minister continued:—

"The question was raised about pensions to wives and children of men who marry after the disability takes place. That is a difficult question. It has been a fundamental principle that the State recognises only those domestic obligations which were in force at the time of disablement. To change it would be a matter of major policy. In my opinion, it is the right and proper thing not to pay a pension to the wife of a man when she marries him after he has suffered his disability, and it is not only my opinion. If we require any real experience of this we have only to turn to the United States of America, where it became such a ramp that it was the object of public indignation. My Hon. and gallant Friend has said he had a suggestion to make as to how it could be done. If he will send along his suggestion I shall be very glad to consider it.

I think, however, that the proper time to consider all these questions is when we have won through to victory—which we are going to do. I am satisfied that this House of Commons will see to it that those who are victims of this war, and have been victims of previous wars, will have justice meted out to them.

THE BRITISH LEGION AND THE EX-SERVICE MAN

Messages from Legionnaires

From Major J. BRUNEL COHEN, Honorary Treasurer of the British Legion, and Member of St. Dunstan's Executive Council:

I would like to express my gratitude to the Editor for having made this issue a special British Legion number, and also for having asked me for a message.

I know that a large number of St. Dunstaners are keen and active members of the Legion, and they may be wondering what that large and important organisation is doing at the moment. At times like these it is not expedient to hold rallies and such like, as we did in the days of peace, and owing to the shortage of newsprint we naturally do not obtain the same publicity as we used to do, though on this score considering the difficulties of supply, we really have little cause for complaint.

In one sentence I would say that the Legion is preparing for the "after the war" period, when we feel confident that our ranks will be swollen by the addition of thousands of those men who are now wearing the King's uniform, and who later will be ex-Service men, as under the British Legion Charter ex-Service men of all wars, including naturally those blinded by enemy action, are entitled to become members of our organisation.

A Planning Committee has been formed by the National Executive Council, and this Committee is already considering all the various problems, such as employment, housing, and living conditions in general, which must of necessity arise in the post-war period.

Our Annual Poppy Day Appeal is made on behalf of all ex-Service men, including naturally those of St. Dunstan's, and our relations with St. Dunstan's, and with your very able Chairman, have always been most friendly. As a keen admirer of the pluck and sacrifice of all blinded men, I would like to take this opportunity of saying "Bless you all," and to wish you the best of luck.

JACK COHEN.

From Captain WILLIAM APPLEBY, Member of the National Executive Council of the British Legion, and Member of St. Dunstan's Executive Council:

On the completion of your training and return to civil environments, you will make

the first great discovery that, as a blinded ex-Service man, you are at last a personality. The opportunity, which the coming of this personality brings, may increase your dignity or make you foolish. Whichever happens, there is an organisation, named the British Legion, whose fame you know of, and whose members will help you with your stature, or would understand you in your foolishness. They will be your comrades in the truest sense of the word.

I have, in my twenty-six years of blindness, seen how the British Legion gives to blinded ex-Service men the opportunity for service to others on terms of absolute equality with their sighted comrades.

The highest positions, both directive and administrative, are open to you, and if, by the grace of God, you are endowed with wisdom and cleverness, then certainly your blindness will be no handicap to attaining the highest position in the movement. If, on the other hand, you prefer the less spectacular, the local Branch can find you much useful work to do.

In any case, whether national or local, the Legion will provide you with an opportunity to serve your fellow men in every aspect of citizenship that makes life worth while.

W. APPLEBY.

From St. Dunstaner C. DURKIN, Vice-President, Metropolitan Area of the British Legion:

The motto of the Legion is "Service not Self," and what a grand opportunity for living up to that motto membership of the Legion provides for all ex-Service men. Each Branch has an Executive Committee, and Committees dealing with Benevolence, Pensions, and Employment, but even for those who do not desire to serve on Committees, the Legion provides a great opportunity for comradeship and social recreation. Many Branches have their own Clubs, but others are less fortunate. In whichever category the Branch stands, the work still goes on. Many problems still face ex-Service men, who yearly grow older, and should there not be willing hands to help the boys at present serving when their period of service is at an end? They will need help, and who better to give it to them than their comrades of previous

was? So, my colleagues, I trust that this appeal may help to increase the number of St. Dunstaners who are members of the British Legion. The two organisations have a working arrangement, and help is needed from both sides. I ask you all to join right away.

C. DURKIN.

From St. Dunstaner W. A. MUGGERIDGE,
Honorary Secretary of the Benevolent Committee, Effingham and Bookhams Branch of the British Legion:

The first object of our Benevolent Committee was not to dispense "charity," but to promote the same spirit of comradeship which existed during the Great War—the sharing of a cigarette when it was difficult to know where the next one would come from, and in the year before the present conflict to help those who, due to unemployment or some other cause, needed that little act of comradeship that dispelled any idea of charity. It was found far better to find employment than temporary financial assistance, and with this idea always in mind, there was little or no unemployment, not only amongst the members of the Legion, but most of the ex-Service men in the district.

I hope it will be my privilege to continue to serve, not only our Great War comrades, but those who are at present serving their country, when we return to peace, trusting that the "new order" may be bonded together in a spirit of fraternity in the Brotherhood of the British Legion.

W. A. MUGGERIDGE.

From St. Dunstaner A. C. EVANS, of Newport, Mon., *who has been a Legionnaire since its foundation:*

Prior to the Legion coming into being, I was a member of the Discharged Sailors and Soldiers' Federation. We were a strong body. I became so interested in the work that I soon took an active part in it. When the Legion was formed, in 1921, I became a member of the first Local Committee. We were the first branch in the Welsh area and, incidentally, we called the first Conference in South Wales. The work of the Legion has been interesting to me since the first day I joined. I think all members of the present Forces, when discharged, should join our ranks and keep up the good work. New difficulties will arise with new conditions, and the new Legionnaires are

better suited to work out solutions. In conclusion, I would say that if this country is to be a better place after the war than it was before, the young ex-Service man will have to come into the Legion and work with us with one common object—the betterment of mankind.

A. C. EVANS.

Competition Corner

The winner of last month's competition was J. McAndrew, of Bournemouth, who submitted 19 words written by two letters of the alphabet. In fairness to every competitor, proper names were not allowed. Some competitors submitted longer lists, but included one-syllable words, like "Isle"—I-L, which, of course, were not strictly accurate. In every case, including the winner's, only two syllable words were allowed.

This Month's Competition

In the Editor's office is a National Savings Certificate, which bears a serial number. This number is made up of six figures, which, added together, total 16. What is its number?

The actual certificate will be awarded to the St. Dunstaner who sends in a correct arrangement of its figures. If no correct solution is received, it will go to the sender of the next best, the first figures ranking nearest.

Entries, on post cards, should be sent to the Editor at Regent's Park, to arrive not later than Monday, April 7th.

Derby Sweepstake, 1941

WARS may come, and wars may go, but the Derby goes on.

A substitute race is being run on June 6th or 7th, and accordingly we have pleasure in announcing once again St. Dunstan's own Derby Sweepstake.

As in previous years, tickets will be 2s. 6d. each. Full rules will appear next month, but application for tickets may be made at once.

One word of warning. It is absolutely essential that every application for tickets must bear the sender's *full* name and address, otherwise the Editor cannot be held responsible for tickets going astray.

The sweepstake is confined strictly to St. Dunstaners, and tickets will on no account be issued to anyone else.

“ In Memory ”

RIFLEMAN GEORGE EDWARD BATEMAN
(*King's Royal Rifle Corps*)

It is with deep regret that we record the death of G. E. Bateman, of Birmingham.

Bateman enlisted in August, 1914, and was wounded at Hooze in 1915. He came under St. Dunstan's care just two years after his enlistment, namely, August, 1916. He was wounded both in the head and left arm and his health was seriously affected. He did very well, however, during his training as a basket-maker, and carried on with his work in spite of ill-health until about three years ago, when he was forced to take things very easily.

For several months before his death he was in hospital, and he died there on January 30th. Owing to war-time difficulties, the usual wreath from Sir Ian could not be sent, but one of flowers was arranged for locally.

Bateman leaves a widow and two children, to whom we extend our deep sympathy—one son, in his teens, died less than a month before his father.

PRIVATE CHARLES BYRNE
(*Manchester Regiment*)

With deep regret we record the death of C. Byrne, of Moreton, Cheshire.

Byrne was wounded in the Battle of the Aisne, but although his sight was damaged, he did not come under St. Dunstan's care until 1939.

He took short training first at Brighton then at Church Stretton in wool rug-making, and returned home only recently. He was not a strong man, but his death was unexpected. He died in hospital after a comparatively short illness, on January 24th.

He leaves a widow and three children, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's was placed on the grave.

PRIVATE THOMAS HORSFALL
(*3rd West Yorkshire Regiment*)

We deeply regret to announce the death of T. Horsfall, of York.

Enlisting on November 1st, 1915, Horsfall was discharged from the Army in 1918, coming to us in April of that year, his sight having failed as a result of his service in France.

He was trained as a boot repairer and mat-maker. A very good workman, he carried on with these occupations for some time, but of late years, on account of very indifferent health, had contented himself with wool rug-making. For some time he has been a very sick man and he died in hospital on February 9th.

A wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades was sent from St. Dunstan's.

For many years, Horsfall was a widower and was devotedly cared for by his daughter, Betty, to whom we extend our deep sympathy in her great loss.

PRIVATE EDWARD EWART KENWARD
(*Munster Fusiliers*)

We record with deep regret the death of E. E. Kenward, of Uckfield.

Kenward lost his sight as a result of being gassed in the Great War, and for the same reason ever afterwards suffered from ill-health. Later he came to St. Dunstan's for training in basket-making, and continued with this until the middle of 1939, when it became obvious that he was far from well. Recently he was admitted to hospital for treatment and seemed to recover, but this was not for long and he died on February 1st.

The funeral took place a few days later and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's. There were others from many local friends, including the Maresfield bellers, of whom Kenward had once been a member.

We send our deep sympathy to Mrs. Kenward and her family in their bereavement.

PRIVATE JOHN EDWARD PLUNKETT
(*R.A.V.C.*)

With deep regret we record the death of J. E. Plunkett, of St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Plunkett lost his sight as a result of his service in the Great War and came to St. Dunstan's in 1917 for training in boot repairing and mat-making. He continued working at mats until 1940, when it became apparent that he was not in good health. In spite of careful attention there was no improvement and he was a very sick man when he went to our Convalescent Home at Blackpool in November last. In due course he was admitted to the local hospital and he died there on January 27th.

The funeral took place at Talbot Road Cemetery, Blackpool. P. W. Powell represented St. Dunstan's men, and Mrs. Butler, of Hayes, represented St. Dunstan's wives in Blackpool, and Matron Davies and Sister Wilson, from the Concord Home, were also present. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We send our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Plunkett and her family.

Deaths

We extend our deepest sympathy to :—
FEARN.—To Mr. and Mrs. Fearn, of East Kirkby, whose little son, Arthur, died on March 4th, aged three years.

WALKER.—To Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Walker, of Hanwell, whose son, Charles, died in hospital on February 26th, after a long illness, most cheerfully and bravely borne.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 273—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

APRIL, 1941

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

American Help for St. Dunstan's

THE abundant generosity of the American people has included gifts to St. Dunstan's. The British War Relief Society has made us a grant of £25,000. I am extremely grateful to Mr. Robert R. Appleby, the Chairman of this Fund in New York, and to Mrs. Rex Benson and Mr. Bertram de N. Cruger, the representatives of the Fund in London, for their sympathetic interest in our work. Such a princely and timely gift not only helps us to carry on St. Dunstan's work and meet our new responsibilities, but is also direct aid to Britain in her war effort by strengthening our dollar resources.

Mr. William V. C. Ruxton, President of the British American Ambulance Corps, has, through his London representative, Mrs. Somerville Smith, presented an Ambulance to St. Dunstan's Hospital. This beautifully-equipped and efficient vehicle was delivered at Church Stretton on Monday, March 24th. St. Dunstaners will remember that Mr. and Mrs. Ruxton are the owners of Melplash Court, Bridport, which they have lent to us for the duration of the war as a West Country Convalescent Home.

St. Dunstaners all over the Empire will thank Mr. Appleby and Mr. Ruxton, and the generous American men and women who subscribe to their funds, for this practical evidence of their desire to send their aid to Britain.

St. Dunstan's for Service Blinded

I am often asked by St. Dunstaners and others what exactly is St. Dunstan's function in this war. As we have just recently made a precise definition of the "service" cases that are to be regarded as St. Dunstaners, it seems a good opportunity to state the facts. The first function of St. Dunstan's is of course to look after the interests of the blinded men of the Great War in every possible way, and, subject to modifications required by war-time difficulties, we are carrying on on familiar lines. Then we have undertaken to give training, settlement, and life-long after-care to Service men and women who are blinded in this war. By Service men and women we mean soldiers, sailors, airmen, A.T.S., W.R.N.S., and W.A.A.F.S., persons engaged in services subsidiary to the fighting forces, policemen, firemen, and members of War Service Civil Defence organisations, such as Auxiliary Fire Service, A.R.P., Nursing and Medical Services, etc. The ordinary civilian blinded in an air-raid may come to our Hospital for a brief time for medical and surgical treatment, but will pass on for training and future care to the civilian blind organisations.

The object of this policy is to maintain St. Dunstan's service tradition, but at the same time to recognise that "service" in this war includes the Home Front, because it is a total war.

As a matter of interest, readers may like to know that the cases that have already been admitted to full benefits of St. Dunstan's include an officer and other ranks from Dunkirk and other fighting, and from bomb and gun explosions, one from the Middle East, a petty officer from Narvik, two flying officers, an auxiliary fireman, an explosive technician from Woolwich Arsenal, and a member of the Home Guard.

Australian St. Dunstaners Co-operate

Joe Lynch, President, and Foster McConnell, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and Dudley Tregent, Honorary Solicitor, and the Committee of the Australian Blinded Soldiers' Association, have done good work in the Commonwealth. I gather from their recent report that they have all made up their minds to give every possible help to any Australians who may be blinded in this war. St. Dunstaners may be gratified to read in their own words what they have to say about this matter. Here is an extract from their report:—

"Those blinded in this war will, on their discharge from service, receive the full benefit of our experience gained in the past, which should be of the greatest advantage in any new problem. This Association should do all in its power to have those blinded in this war sent to St. Dunstan's for expert training, which is absolutely essential. We must co-operate with St. Dunstan's in the best possible manner, so that our fellows are trained along the lines which our experience has taught us is best for Australian conditions. To re-create life anew in a real sense, in a world already beset with almost insurmountable difficulties, will require the closest contact between this Association and St. Dunstan's, and close co-operation between this Executive and State Associations will also be essential to ensure all round maximum efficiency. We desire to thank the various Associations and our private members for past assistance, and, though these days may be dark, we must look forward with hope to the future."

Readers will remember that the Australian Government, like the other Dominion Governments, has asked St. Dunstan's to be responsible for looking after any of their countrymen who may be blinded in or evacuated to the British Isles. We are glad to have this honour and to undertake this responsibility should the need arise.

A War Office Braille Letter

It is commonplace to assume that Government Departments are a hard-headed lot. But behind the official facade there is often a kindly heart, though it is seldom that it can find expression.

Recently, T. G. ("Tiny") Fleming, the giant blinded soldier telephone operator who used to row such a strong oar in the St. Dunstan's boat, asked me if I could get any information from the Secretary of State for War as to the welfare of his son, who is a prisoner of war. I learn that from the Secretary of State's office a letter has gone to him giving him what information is available, and the War Minister's Secretary tells me that she has transcribed the letter into braille specially for him. An unusual and thoughtful act, which I am sure gave great pleasure, and which seems to me to be worthy of being placed on record.

Our Grandson

My wife and I would like to thank the large number of St. Dunstaners and members of the Staff who have sent us their congratulations on becoming grandparents. My daughter, Jean McDonald, gave birth to a son on March 22nd. Mr. McDonald, who is a 2nd Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade at present serving in the Middle East, and my daughter, add their thanks. The little boy and his mother are doing well. Let us hope that he and all St. Dunstan's grandchildren will grow up into a happier and better world. An old friend tells me that a grandchild has advantages over your own child because "you can spoil the grandchild and leave it to the mother to clear up the difficulties."

IAN FRASER.

Church Stretton Notes

HOSPITAL cases are in another building now, and the Longmynd Hotel becomes St. Dunstan's Training Centre, with separate classroom for massage (complete with "Clarence," the skeleton!) and a quiet room for typing letters, which can also be used for braille and typing tests. The V.A.D.s are housed at "Belmont," about five minutes' walk away from the Hotel, and the Officers are at "Battlefield." Old St. Dunstaners will be glad to hear that Mrs. Irvine, better known to us all as "Sister Pat," was there as Hostess for some weeks before Easter, but has now left to be with her children during the holidays.

At the time of going to press April is passing, but like a white-coated lamb, and though we are assured that Spring lags not far behind, it is too early to close down our Winter programme. The Debating Club proposes winding up the season on April 1st—a significant date—with another Ladies' Night. As two fixtures for March 26th fell through at the last moment, that ever-resourceful whip—H. Miller—organised a surprise item. Each man present as his name was drawn was asked to speak on a subject proposed by the Chairman. These subjects had been carefully selected to set the speaker at his ease and to interest his audience! For instance, Allan, who had served on the N.W. Frontier, was asked to speak about the Khyber Pass; the latest comer, whose tastes were not yet known, was to give his impressions of St. Dunstan's, a Scot to tell of Edinburgh Castle. Other specialists spoke on furniture, the Hull fish trade, Sheffield Wednesday, chemists' interests, etc. Finally, Tommy Rogers was drawn by the question "Is dancing immoral?" and scouted the mere suggestion with arguments drawn from ethical treatises and classical authorities.

During the month the following have passed tests:—

Typewriting.—A. French and J. Lawson (Civilians).

Typing.—L. Webber.

Braille Reading.—R. L. Berry (Civilian).

New Hospital Service Cases.—G. Etherington (Sapper), R.E., aged 32 years (Windlesham, Surrey); F. Reid (Sapper), R.E., aged 19 years (Aberdeen); Flying

Officer Cooper, R.A.F. (Kenton Middlesex), aged 36 years.

Under the new definition of "service" cases, Auxiliary Fireman L. Webber now becomes a St. Dunstaner.

Blinded Men Perform Thriller

The following is an extract from the "Shrewsbury Chronicle," March 7th:—

A dramatic entertainment was given by members of St. Dunstan's, all of them totally blind, at the Longmynd Training Centre, Church Stretton, on Tuesday evening.

The entertainment opened with a medley of lively tunes, played by the Hostel Jazz Band, with Leslie White at the piano, Flying Officer Kitson saxophone, and Peter McMartin drums. This was followed by round and part-songs, given by the Hostel Chorus, but the great event of the evening was the play "In the Library," by W. W. Jacobs, with the cast as follows:—

Trayton Burleigh	-	-	D. CALDER
James Fletcher	-	-	R. BERRY
The Burglar	-	-	H. PREEDY
The Sergeant	-	"POP"	HUMPHREYS
The Constable	-	-	G. STANLEY

The actors, who were word perfect, gave such a realistic display that one quite forgot that it was not a real burglar who was agonisingly thumping on the door to be let out, whilst the audience fully shared his horror when he discovered the murdered man lying on the floor, and realised that he would be suspected of the murder.

What struck everyone so forcibly was the natural movement of all the actors. The average blind man is sometimes conspicuous by his immobility, and ordinary actors are prone to be "wooden" on the stage. Not so these blind men—they moved freely about the stage. Every emotion, horror, joy, relief, and conviction, was registered on their features. At the end of the performance, Lady Buckmaster, who is a member of the British Drama League, and who was responsible for the tuition, rehearsals, and production of this performance, read a telegram which she had received from the League, wishing them every success with this play, and she said that she hopes very soon her company of blind actors would be able to take their place and compete in the Drama League Festivals in other parts of the country.

Blackpool Notes

We raffled a very beautiful blue and gold work-basket, made by G. Fallowfield, and made £4 10s. on it, and, with £2 from other sources, we managed to send £6 10s. to the Comforts Fund. The basket was won by an R.A.F. officer's wife in Blackpool.

We then raffled a very pretty little hand-bag, made by the wife of a St. Dunstaner, Mrs. Denny, of South Africa. We made £2 10s. on that, and it was won by J. Bailey, of Barnehurst. We sent it to him and it was again raffled by his daughter, and another 16s. 6d. fell to the Comforts Fund.

Our third effort was a very beautiful white woolly cape, on which we made £1 10s., which was won by Mrs. Butler, who is at present staying in Blackpool. Her husband is an invalid, so we suggest he should wear the cape, but being pure and white we fear it would not suit him. Anyway the Comforts Fund for sons of St. Dunstaners is richer by ten guineas.

Things we would like to know—

Who rang the fire bell to call the troops to tea?

Derby Sweepstake

As announced last month, the REVIEW Sweepstake is now open. Full rules are printed below. Only St. Dunstan's men may enter, and prize-money will not be paid to anyone else.

RULES

1. The price of tickets is 2s. 6d. each.
2. The total amount subscribed will, with the exception of the actual cost of printing and postage involved, be distributed as follows:—

Fifty per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the winning horse.

Twenty per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the second horse.

Ten per cent. to the holder of the ticket drawing the third horse.

Twenty per cent. to be equally divided among all those who hold tickets drawing a horse which actually starts in the race.

3. Application for tickets can be made at once and will be received up to the first post on **Monday, May 19th**. Every application must bear the name and address of the sender and envelopes, which must be plainly marked "Derby Competition," must be sent to the REVIEW, St. Dunstan's Headquarters, Regent's Park, and not to any other department. Postal orders must be made payable to St. Dunstan's and crossed.

Tickets will be despatched in rotation, and must be produced before payment of prize money is made,

News of St. Dunstaners

St. Dunstan's has had its air-raid wardens and its roof-spotters—now it has its fire-watchers. G. W. Francis, of Morley, Leeds, plays a leading part in the fire-watching in his street; —. Dyson, of Greenfield, Oldham, also regularly takes his turn, with his wife, in their district. J. McNicholls, of Manchester, is a member of a fire-watching team. He mans the stirrup pump.

By the way, McNicholls had an excellent "write-up" in the Manchester edition of the *Daily Mail* recently, which reported the North West Divisional Office of the Ministry of Labour as saying that he was the fastest man telephone operator in the country.

★ ★ ★

R. Boyter, of Pittenweem, is a proud grandfather, his daughter Nessie having presented him with a granddaughter. Incidentally, his son, Peter, hopes to ride in the Apprentices' Race at Newmarket this year.

★ ★ ★

W. A. Simmons, of Northampton, and A. J. Harvey, of Guildford, have also joined the proud ranks of St. Dunstan's grandfathers. Simmons' eldest son's wife has had a daughter, while a little girl has also been born to Harvey's daughter.

★ ★ ★

D. Batchelor, of Ratley, near Banbury, won third prize with his bantams at a recent show.

★ ★ ★

A mat, made by R. Finch, of Upper Gornal, Worcs., realised £2 10s. when it was raffled in aid of a fund to provide a Mobile Canteen.

★ ★ ★

G. Lyttle, of Keady, Ireland, has had a sad blow in the death, by enemy action, of his youngest sister, her husband, and their four children.

★ ★ ★

We have heard, with regret, of the death by enemy action of Mrs. Yare, wife of our St. Dunstaner, J. Yare, of Liverpool. Yare and his daughter were also in the house when the bomb fell, but both escaped injury.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. F. Fleetwood, of Herne Bay, who celebrated their silver wedding on February 28th, and to Mr. and Mrs. T. Jarman, of Oxford, who celebrated their anniversary on April 3rd,

Sons and Daughters in the Services

BATTEN, DENNIS, Searchlight Training Regiment, R.A. (A.A.).
 BROADLEY, A.C.2 J. G. C., Royal Air Force.
 BROWN, Lce.-Corpl. W. J. (near Wellington), Royal Engineers.
 BUTLER, Corpl. J. C. (Waterford), Cavalry Corps.
 BUTLER, BETTY (Distington), W.A.T.S.
 COONEY, O.S. M. S., Royal Navy.
 DAVIES, A.C.2 S. (Blockley), Royal Air Force.
 DEEGAN, A.C.2 S., Royal Air Force.
 GARRATT, O.S. Harry (Sherwood, Nottingham), Royal Navy.
 GILPIN, Pte. F., Devonshire Regiment.
 HINTON, O-Tel. H. W. (adopted son of A. Hayes, Nottingham), Royal Navy.
 IRVINE, Air-fitter William (Glasgow), Fleet Air Arm.
 MCGILL, ESTHER (Hertford), Women's Land Army.
 SCOTT, A.C. L. C. (Langley, Bucks), Royal Air Force.
 SHEPPARD, Pte. K. (Warminster), Somerset Light Infantry.
 SHEPPARD, Corpl. H. (Warminster), Wiltshire Regt.
 SIMMONS, Sapper A., G.C. Coy.
 TAYLOR, Driver R. H. (Bournemouth), Hants Company.
 TAYLOR, A.C.2 R. W. (Bournemouth), Royal Air Force.
 WILLIAMS, Trooper J. (Shipley), Training Regiment, R.A.C.

Killed in Action

We have heard with deep regret that Leo O'Kelly, only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. O'Kelly, of London, S.W.15, who has been missing since August, 1940, has now been reported killed.

Our deep sympathy is also extended to Mrs. McCubbin, of Leicester, widow of our late St. Dunstaner, R. McCubbin, whose only son, Tommy, has been killed while serving overseas.

Young St. Dunstaners

Mary, daughter of R. Young, of Glasgow, who, we are glad to say, is now slowly recovering from his recent illness, is studying medicine at Glasgow University. She hopes to take her degree as a Doctor.

Peter Gilhooley (Verwood) is an A.R.P. messenger.

Fred Ham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ham, of Taffs Well, is a Home Guard.

Stephen Butler, son of our Waterford St. Dunstaner, married Miss Kathleen Ryan on January 10th; John Mitchell, son

of Mr. and Mrs. J. Mitchell, of Leith, was married last May; and Elsie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, of Aspley Estate, was married on Christmas Day to Mr. John Grenville Marr.

W. Dimond, of East Grinstead, has three sons in the Home Guard—a record?

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Parker, of Kilkenny, was married on February 21st.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Leeman, of Louth, has passed his examination as a wireless operator, although he is only 17, and will shortly go to sea. While he was studying in London, he found time to act as a stretcher bearer during some of the worst raids.

Walter Turrell has joined the Air Training Corps. So has sixteen-years-old Norman Skelly. He is a corporal.

Kathleen Fleming, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. "Tiny" Fleming, is to marry Mr. Dennis Tike-Hughes, at St. Andrew's Church, Harrow Road, on April 26th.

George, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Dawson, of Carlton, Cambs., was married on November 24th.

Aileen Tooth, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tooth, of Christchurch, married Edward House, late of the Hampshire Regiment, early in January.

Promotions

The son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Butler, of Distington, is now a Sergeant Instructor.

W. Shayler's eldest son has been promoted to the rank of Corporal, while his youngest son, George Douglas, becomes a Quartermaster, at 21.

At nineteen years of age, Cyril Bagstaff, son of our late St. Dunstaner, of Cambridge, must be our youngest C.Q.M.S.—if not of the Army. He is in the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

Benny Skelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Skelly, of Batley, has been promoted to the rank of Bombardier.

Sir Ian Returns to the B.B.C.

From "The Times," April 3rd, 1941:

Mr. Duff Cooper, Minister of Information, announced in the House of Commons to-day that the King had approved the reconstitution of the Board of Governors of the British Broadcasting Corporation, the numbers of which were reduced to two at the outbreak of war, as follows:—

The two serving members, Sir Allan Powell and Mr. C. H. G. Millis, have, at the request of the Government, consented to continue in office.

The following have been invited and have consented to join the Board:—

Sir Ian Fraser, M.P., Mr. J. J. Mallon, Mr. Arthur Mann, and Lady Violet Bonham Carter.

Mr. Lindsay (Kilmarnock, Nat. Lab.).—In view of the very reassuring statement, will my right hon. friend say whether, under the reasonable restrictions of war, this enlightened board of governors will be allowed to exercise genuine freedom?

Mr. Duff Cooper.—Yes, Sir; certainly.

Sir Ian Fraser and Mr. Mallon were members of the Board before its reduction. It is understood that the former will be enabled, under the new Act, to retain his seat in the House of Commons.

Wireless Notes

A new series of B.B.C. broadcasts has been arranged for the Forces in the series entitled "Radio Reconnaissance."

Mr. Ritchie Calder will be in charge of a series on "Science and the Fighting Man" (Tuesdays, at 3.30 p.m.).

Another series, "Where Britain Stands on Guard" (Thursday, at 3.30 p.m.), will deal with key points overseas.

A revival of the inspiring Home Guard programme, "We Also Serve," is due on April 24th.

"Dr. Goebbels Entertains," beginning on April 26th, will present in three broadcasts in dramatic form a selection of the best and most entertaining lies that have emanated from the Nazi Propaganda Bureau.

Competition Corner

As no correct, or nearly correct, solution has been received for last month's National Savings competition, the closing date has been extended to Saturday, May 3rd. You are invited to guess the number of a

National Savings Certificate made up of six figures which, added together, total 16. Post-cards, please, to the Editor at Regent's Park.

From a Young St. Dunstaner

In a letter to Sir Ian, Lieutenant Clifford Curtis-Willson writes:—

"Please convey my very grateful thanks to St. Dunstan's Comforts Fund for the cigarettes, which I received to-day. It's grand to know that you people, in spite of all the worries of your second encounter with the Hun, can spare a thought for us youngsters making our debut. I can't tell you what a kick it gave me.

"— is very disappointing at present; the only fighting that goes on consists of battles with regimental H.Q. over the telephone, so I have no battle honours to show as yet. Still, the A.A. boys don't get all the fun. Occasionally a Hun plane comes low enough for us to 'hass' off with Lewis and Bren guns, and once, by diligent disregard of Standing Orders, we managed to loose off our big stuff within a landlady's stone's throw of some "E" boats. With any luck however, the R.A.F. may miss one or two of the invasion barges and then we shall get a crack.

"Again, my very sincere thanks to the St. Dunstan's 'boys' and the best of good luck to you all."

National Egg Laying Test

Report for the fourth period of four weeks
13th January to 9th February, 1941

Position	Name	Test Score	
			Value
1	J. Campbell	...	392
2	P. Holmes	...	333
3	A. H. Capper	...	314
4	T. M. Fisher	...	306
5	W. Alan Smith	...	280
6	T. M. Fisher	...	279
7	R. E. Hill	...	262
8	A. Chaffin	...	253
9	H. A. Hammett	...	246
10	E. H. Carpenter	...	245
11	P. Holmes	...	235

Cool!

The National Amalgamated Approved Society reports in its magazine, "The Office Window," that a member in one of the bombed areas sent in a sickness claim the other day. He had been flung, by blast, into a pit 20ft. deep. He "went on the funds" with "Headache!"

War Pensions

FOLLOWING up his question in the House of Commons on February 18th, with a view to keeping the whole question of pensions in the public mind, Sir Ian Fraser has contributed a letter to *The Times*, and a number of interviews to other newspapers, and in Parliament on March 6th asked the following question:—

CAPTAIN SIR IAN FRASER asked the Minister of Pensions when present war disability pension rates were first fixed what was the cost-of-living figure and what was the amount of the pension; when he raised these pensions what was the cost-of-living figure and how much was the increase; and what is the present cost-of-living figure?

THE MINISTER OF PENSIONS (Sir Walter Womersley): The basic rate of pension for total disablement provided in the Royal Warrant of September, 1939, was 32s. 6d. per week. The rate was that laid down in 1921 for the peace-time Army. The average cost-of-living figure in 1921 was 226; in September, 1939, it was 155. The figure was 181 in June, 1940, when the rate of disability pension was increased to 34s. 2d. per week. Allowances for wife and children were also at the same time substantially increased. The latest index figure for the cost of living is 197.

SIR IAN FRASER: When does the Right Hon. Gentleman contemplate making a further adjustment to conform with the rise that has taken place?

SIR WALTER WOMERSLEY: I am keeping a very careful watch on the cost-of-living figure. As soon as it appears to me that it is high enough to warrant an increase I shall make it.

Make a Will

A YEAR or two ago the Chairman wrote a note urging St. Dunstaners to make their wills, so as to avoid complications for their families. His foresight has been justified, for many have done so. Recently, however, the Welfare Department has reported one or two cases in which, because of neglect to make a will, there has been very great inconvenience and a hold-up in the settlement of the estate, causing hardship to the widow and family.

St. Dunstaners who own property, however small, are urged that in these times it is the duty of the head of a family to go to a local solicitor and make a simple will. It costs very little and saves much trouble.

St. Dunstan's is a Trust Corporation and can therefore act as Trustee. Tell your solicitor this and he will advise you of the advantages of having an independent and trusted friend like St. Dunstan's to act for you. Of course, St. Dunstan's will act as Trustee for you without any charge to you or your family.

Mr. George Smith

ST. DUNSTAN'S Headquarters have suffered a severe loss in the death of Mr. George Smith.

When we took over the big house, St. John's Lodge, Regent's Park, in 1921, "Smithy" was gardener there. He stayed on to work for St. Dunstan's, and for twenty years gave unstintingly of his services. It is said that no one is indispensable, but George Smith came nearer that description than most. Whenever there was a job to be done, he did it. In his time with us he was gardener, electrician, plumber, air-raid warden, fire watcher—everything relating to the care of our building was in his most capable hands—and yet he would still find time to relieve the orderlies when they were hard pressed, and meet St. Dunstaners passing through London, as many will remember. Everything he did, he did quietly, cheerfully, and supremely well.

He was taken ill in February, but recovered, and after a convalescence at Brighton, came back to us, but only for a week. He had not been well and, on the doctor's advice, went to hospital for an X-ray. As he was sitting chatting to a friend he had a seizure and passed away shortly afterwards.

His death has been a great grief to everyone at Headquarters, and to numberless other friends, both at St. Dunstan's and elsewhere. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow and her family. Mrs. Smith herself has given valuable service to St. Dunstan's, and her connection with us is not to be broken.

A wreath from Sir Ian and Lady Fraser and his friends at St. Dunstan's, and another from St. Dunstan's staff, were among the many flowers.

St. Dunstan's was represented at the funeral by Miss Goole, Private Secretary to the Chairman, Mr. Lale, and Orderly Gibbon.

Thanks, Jim!

"Nuggets" for October went
To the bottom; doubtless sent
By a U-Boat out to spoil
Relaxation after toil.
Other braille and other ink
Followed "Nuggets" down the sink.
Wish you luck to carry on
Till the victory be won.

North Auckland,
New Zealand. JAMES CHISHOLM.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE HAROLD HARRIS
(*East Kent Regiment, The Buffs*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of H. Harris, of Maidstone.

Harris enlisted in 1916 and as a result of wounds received whilst serving in France in 1917, lost his sight and came to St. Dunstan's shortly afterwards. He was trained in mat-making, at which he worked until quite recently. A few years ago his health began to deteriorate and a month or so ago it was realised that he was a very sick man. His death on the 2nd instant was not unexpected.

The funeral took place a few days later, and was attended by many relatives and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Harris and her family.

SERGEANT WALTER PRIEST
(*11th Worcestershire Regiment*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of W. Priest, of Kennford, near Exeter.

Priest enlisted in 1916 and saw service on the Western Front, Salonika, and Russia, and as a result of the privations he suffered, lost his sight and in due course was made a beneficiary of St. Dunstan's. His health was not good enough to allow him to come to St. Dunstan's for training, so instruction was given to him in his own home, where he worked at the making of baskets and trays, for which he had a good local sale.

Unfortunately, his health began to deteriorate and in recent years he was an invalid, but a very cheerful one, and happy in the splendid care and attention given to him by his wife.

His death occurred on February 25th, and the funeral a few days later was attended by many relatives and friends. Among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian Fraser and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Priest and her son Douglas.

LIEUTENANT E. G. THOMAS
(*London Rifle Brigade*)

A WIDE circle of friends will learn with the deepest regret of the sudden death of Lieut. E. G. Thomas, of Worthing.

Lieut. Thomas, who was 47 years of age, was wounded by gunshot at Gommecourt, in July, 1916, while serving as Lieutenant in the 5th City of London, London Rifle Brigade, and as a result lost his sight. He came to St. Dunstan's the following October and there qualified as a Chartered Masseur. For some time he practised in Croydon, where he founded the Lansdown Social Club for the Blind, but in 1928 he moved to Worthing, where his personal charm and professional skill rapidly gained for him many friends and a most successful practice.

His death occurred very suddenly on Friday, March 7th. The funeral took place on Wednesday, March 12th, at Durrington Cemetery, after a service at St. Columba's Presbyterian Church. Mr. Mace represented St. Dunstan's.

RIFLEMAN JOSEPH PUGH
(*12th Rifle Brigade*)

WE record, with deep regret, the death of J. Pugh, of Islington, as a result of enemy action. Mrs. Pugh also lost her life.

Pugh was wounded at Ypres and came to us in 1916, and was trained in boot-repairing and mat-making, and in 1935 he went to Raglan Street where he worked in the Nursery Furniture Department until it closed down in December, 1939.

The funeral took place at New Southgate Cemetery. Among those present were A. G. Bright, who was a Rifleman in the same Brigade as Pugh, W. Lacey, Sister Goodey, Mr. H. Burgess (representing St. Dunstan's Welfare Department), and Mr. J. E. Rose. A Union Jack covered the coffin, and among the many beautiful flowers was a wreath from Sir Ian Fraser and his old comrades at St. Dunstan's.

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Pugh's relatives, and to their adopted son, who will now live with our St. Dunstan's brother.

Births

KEEGAN.—To the wife of A. Keegan, of Cork, on March 2nd, a daughter—Sheila Marie.

MATTHEWS.—To the wife of G. Matthews, of Bilston, on February 11th, a son.

SMITH.—To the wife of A. Smith, of Wembley Park, on February 17th, a son—Anthony John.

Marriage. MCCOLLESTER—BROWN.—On April 19th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, Rawtenstall, J. T. McColester to Miss Rosella Brown.

Deaths

We offer our sincere sympathy this month to the relatives of the following:—

SPINK.—J. W. Spink, of Hemel Hempstead, who died on April 14th, Easter Monday, after a long and painful illness.

YARE.—To J. Yare, of Liverpool, whose wife has died as a result of injuries received through enemy action.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 274—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

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[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Memorial to Miss Boyd Rochfort

MANY letters from St. Dunstaners confirm a very widespread feeling that the matter of a Memorial to Miss Winifred Boyd Rochfort, the Matron of St. Dunstan's, should be considered. What form such a Memorial should take is a matter upon which there will doubtless be many opinions, but I am quite certain that St. Dunstaners as a whole would feel that we should all subscribe for a Memorial, and that we should do so now.

If St. Dunstaners agree with me, they should send their subscriptions to Mr. W. G. Askew, at St. Dunstan's Offices, Tyttenhanger Park, London Colney, near St. Albans, Herts. As usual in these cases, I suggest a limit of one shilling, so that our subscriptions may be uniform and may be as widely representative as possible.

I would welcome ideas as to what form the Memorial should take, and we will publish some of these briefly in the REVIEW during the next month or two.

I myself make one suggestion, namely, that the Memorial should be associated with St. Dunstan's at Brighton, and that it should not be bought or erected until after the war, partly because it might be damaged, and partly because we are not occupying Brighton at present. I would suggest that the money be lent to the Government, interest free, until after the war.

I would be glad if readers would comment on these suggestions, so that what we do may reflect the views of as many as possible.

Braille Reading and the Paper Shortage

It is up to all of us to save materials and labour to the utmost possible extent to help the war effort. May I suggest one or two little ways in which some of us may be able to do this.

I receive two or three Braille magazines each month. I always pass them on when I have finished with them to a blind friend. This makes them doubly useful without using more paper. I do not suggest that all St. Dunstaners should post their magazines on, as they may not know of a friend who would like them. But in some cases several St. Dunstaners live in the same town or village. They might meet each other and arrange to "swop" Braille magazines. If, for example, there were two St. Dunstaners living near

to each other and each was receiving four magazines, they might arrange to receive two each, and change over in the middle of the month.

If any are receiving magazines in excess of what they can really get through, they should let us know. I want every blinded soldier to have enough Braille to fill in all odd times and provide ample reading matter, but if anyone is getting more than he can use I would be glad if he would write to me and say which magazines he would like us to stop sending him.

IAN FRASER.

News from South Africa

MRS. DENNY and I have just returned from a four weeks' holiday, during which we visited Durban and Capetown, entailing a rail journey of 2,764 miles, which is rather longer than a holiday trip in the old country. At Durban we met Mrs. Holmes, who has been such a friend to St. Dunstaners in South Africa. Mrs. Little, another friend of St. Dunstan's, also came to see us, and Archibald, whom old timers will remember, paid us two visits from his country home at Gillits, which is eighteen miles from Durban. In Capetown we met Mrs. Chadwick-Bates and her staff, Miss Joan Rothband, and Mrs. Lorentz. The last-named lady is also well known to St. Dunstaners in Johannesburg, where she has also done much valuable work in aid of our organisation. We have to thank Mrs. Bates for the reunion she arranged in our honour, and also in honour of the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Hough, of Buluwayo, Southern Rhodesia, which took the form of a luncheon at the Alexandra Club, Capetown. Reunions seldom happen in South Africa, owing to the huge distances separating our St. Dunstaners, so this meeting was all the more appreciated. It enabled us to meet Advocate Walter Bowen, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Hough, Mr. and Mrs. Sattery, and Mr. and Mrs. van Blerk. Mrs. Southwell-Jones, a member of the Head Committee in South Africa, presided, in the absence of Mrs. Chadwick-Bates, who was indisposed, and there were also present Captain S. H. Burton Moore, Secretary, British Empire Service League, Capetown Branch, and Miss Rothband and Mrs. Lorentz.

We were stunned by the news of the death of our dear Matron, Miss Winifred Boyd Rochfort, O.B.E., which reached us on March 17th, in rather dramatic manner. On that day a mail arrived from England, bringing with it three letters for us. The first one we opened was from our dear

Matron, and was dated February 4th—four days before she died. The second letter opened was from a member of the staff at Church Stretton, announcing her death on February 8th. We, in South Africa, will miss our dear Matron more than words can describe, for throughout her long illness she never forgot to write to us, and I shall never forget her kindness to me and my wife when I was at St. Dunstan's.

Two days ago we had a very pleasant surprise, for who should walk into our flat but Mrs. Chadwick-Bates herself. She was on one of her annual tours round the Union of South Africa and, on the present occasion, we had a most interesting chat. All St. Dunstaners will be pleased to know that she had recovered from her recent indisposition and is now quite well. She has asked me to send her best wishes to all of you.

My youngest son, Terence Aubrey Denny, who joined the Pretoria Highlanders at the beginning of the war, has now been transferred to the South African Air Force.

Mrs. Denny joins me in sending to you, Mr. Editor, to the members of the staff, and to all St. Dunstaners and their families, our kindest regards and best wishes. Keep smiling for we are winning, and "There will always be an England."

EDWARD DENNY.

Marriage

DURRANT — ALLEN. — Mrs. Dorothy Durrant, widow of our St. Dunstaner, S. Durrant, married Mr. Ernest Allen, of Pilford, Dorset, on April 19th.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Benning, of Tiptree, Essex, who celebrated their silver wedding on February 23rd; and to Mr. and Mrs. A. Oldfield, of Sheffield, whose anniversary was on April 22nd.

Church Stretton Notes

THE Debating Club closed for the season on April 1st—it has certainly helped to eloquence many who might otherwise have remained tongue-tied in public for the rest of their lives.

Lady Buckmaster proposed "That Victorian upbringing was superior to that of the modern child." She called to mind the sterling qualities evident on the countenances of Papa, Mamma, and their numerous progeny in the groups in the family photograph album; these, she said, contrasted favourably with the vacant, artificial appearance of the modern child, and its parent. Victorian children had few toys, and its outings and treats were so rare that anticipation was almost as enjoyable as realisation; the modern child has so many that it grows tired of toys and cinemas, theatres, and dances, and has no time to develop imagination. Mrs. Greenland, seconding, spoke of the neglect of religion and the sterner virtues in modern education. In spite of these arguments, the Victorians lost their case by a large majority.

Mock Trial

On Tuesday, April 8th, Tomaso Roggiero, of Longmynd, appeared before Mr. Justice Stephenson, charged with disorderly conduct and forcible entry of the "Pig's Trotters" before opening hours, and under the influence of drink. Miss Rosie Sharpe (*alias* Miss Pain), the barmaid, a sprightly blonde, whose ingenuous appearance touched the hearts of judge and jurors alike, deposed that on the night in question Roggiero had entered the tap room as she was bolting the door; he was carrying a doormat, and excused his entry after hours by stating that he had found it lying outside; when she remonstrated, he replied: "You know what I want," and was most abusive when she refused to serve him. Prisoner appeared in dock loaded with shackles, and seemed absorbed in following the proceedings, but Constable Ivor Thirst (Stanley) and Sergeant Gossip (Humphreys) discovered that he had produced a pack of cards and was playing patience. Miss Harris (Lady Buckmaster) former flame of Roggiero, testified to the moral uplift she had always experienced when in converse with the prisoner. The Rev. Aloysius Icanmopem (J. McDonald), on the other

hand, spoke of the pernicious influence of this bibulous monster, whose sorry end would be plain to all men unless he amended the errors of his ways (cries of "Shame"). There was a buzz of excitement when Mr. A. Twist (S. Duncan), the schoolmaster, rose to defend his erstwhile pupil. Mr. Twist is noted for his ironical humour and mordant wit. Roggiero, he deposed, had been at times a brilliant pupil, at times portentously dull; he shone particularly in the arts of tripe-writing and mis-pronunciation, and had been employed for a short time only as pupil teacher in these important subjects. He had incredible influence over his school-fellows—whether for good or bad there were mixed opinions, but no one could doubt his prowess in the world of sport, holding as he did the record at marbles, the championship at crown and anchor, and the captaincy of the three-legged team. Let him speak for himself!

Evidence was also given by Bert Basher (E. Russell), and a yokel, Archibald Pudden (L. Webber). The usher, W. Wainman, had much difficulty in keeping order in the Court as the prisoner rose to defend himself. Although obviously of Italian extraction, his command of classical English was almost Teutonic, and the steady flow of words of four or five syllables went far to sway his hearers, in fact, but for the eloquence of the prosecuting counsel and the incisive remarks of Mr. Justice Stephenson, Roggiero might have been acquitted.

When sentence was passed and prisoner removed from the dock, both Counsel, Messrs. Bunkum, K.C. (Miller) and Sir Oswald (Gadd) were so overwrought that they were seen drying their tears on the same handkerchief, which they wrung out in the A.R.P. bucket.

N.B.—The bottle of beer, which was so greatly appreciated by all concerned, except the Minister—judge, jury, counsel, witnesses and prisoner—was supplied by Messrs. Hawketts, the well-known brewers.

A few trainees went home for the holiday, but Hallam was the sole representative of our usual joyous Easter crowd.

On Good Friday, Mrs. Greenland organised a Treasure Hunt, starting from the Longmynd Hotel, through the wood, up

hill and down dale, ending at a café in the village, where seekers and guides were duly refreshed, and the winners received their due rewards.

On Easter Monday there was a drive—the majority of the party were dropped at Brimfield, and walked through the Oakley woods to the town; these woods are said to have been a haunt of the Druids and the huge oaks date from their time. At Ludlow they visited the Church, and were much interested in the deep and quaint carvings on the Miserere seats, thence to the Reader's House, with its historic treasures; here weaving is still carried on—and so to tea at the "Royal Oak."

We have had many kind invitations to dances and concerts, and the Army has found room for us at the Ensa concerts at Silvester Hall.

On April 3rd the Raven Club invited us all to a dance at Shrewsbury. Mindful of their hospitality on a previous occasion, everyone was eager to go and our bus was filled to overflowing. However, sufficient lady partners awaited us for everyone to dance and to compete for the prizes given for Spot Dances. Mrs. Lawson was lucky enough to win two. Refreshments were on the same scale as the rest of this first-class entertainment, and we were glad that we had Toft to express our gratitude to our kind hosts.

Another concert by the Central Ordnance Depot was announced for April 29th. The room was packed in anticipation of a performance equal to the one they gave in January. This time they surpassed themselves in a non-stop two-hour programme. Mr. Davenport, in thanking them, ventured to ask "Considering the amount of practice which such a performance must involve, how do you find time for soldiering?"

We must not omit our thanks to Miss Arning, Miss Whittome, and Mrs. Colliver, who gave us a most amusing sketch one Sunday evening, as "Three Widows" of the typical music-hall "char" type. The audience was somewhat sparse, as they had been too diffident of their own powers to advertise beforehand, so we hope to have another performance in the near future.

Congratulations to the following, who have passed tests during April:—

Braille Reading.—Flying Officer E. Kitson, P. McMartin.

Braille Writing.—E. Russell, J. D. Calder, G. Stanley.

New Hospital Service Cases

A. L. Watkins-Grafton, Royal Fusiliers, aged 27 (London); W. H. Cowing, Home Guards, aged 17 (Plumstead); Miss A. A. Cheveralls, 4th Sussex British Red Cross Society, attached C.N.R. (St. Leonards-on-Sea); D. L. Usher, Royal Marines, aged 21 (Cardiff); D. E. Pearson, R.A.F. (Sergeant), aged 19 (Whitton, Middlesex).

W. Carlton has now been discharged from the Army and is a St. Dunstaner.

Comforts Fund

It will be a pleasure to all those who have so steadily supported the Fund to know that a parcel has been sent to every St. Dunstan's son whose name has been sent in, with the exception of two or three for whom we have been unable to obtain a full address.

Thanks to the generous support given to the Fund, there is sufficient money in hand to begin the second round of parcels. If they have not already done so, will parents please send the present address of all sons who are serving.

The parcel now consists of a 6s. postal order and some kind of knitted garment, and, judging by the letters received, there seems no doubt that under present circumstances the postal order is more welcome than an assortment of foodstuffs and other things, even if we could get them.

Sons and Daughters in the Services

BOON, Sapper J. B. (Woodingdean), Royal Engineers.
BOWRING, H. (Weymouth), F.A.A.T.E.
BOWERS, PHYLLIS (Hounslow), W.A.A.F.
GAY, Private C., East Surreys.
GIBBONS, Signaller W. (Kineton), Royal Artillery.
ISAAC, L.-Ac. Hamilton, Royal Air Force.
JONES, A.-c.1 (Slough), Royal Air Force.
JONES, Private H. J. (Slough).
MAWFORD, Driver, Royal Army Service Corps.
McALONAN, Private H., Border Regiment.
McALONAN, Sapper R., Royal Engineers.
MURPHY, Stoker John (Glasgow) Royal Navy.
SHURROCK, Gunner F., Royal Artillery.
YOUNG, Gunner T. F. (Feltham), Royal Artillery.
YOUNG, Gunner W. E. (Feltham), Royal Artillery.
YOUNG, Private S. A. (Feltham), Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Reported Missing

We have heard with deep regret that Mr. and Mrs. "Micky" Burran, whose son, Colin, was reported to be a prisoner of war just a year ago, have now received a letter from the Air Ministry informing them that it has been regretfully decided that he must now be considered as "missing." The Ministry, after extensive inquiries, are forced to the belief that his being reported as a prisoner of war was due to an error on the part of the German authorities.

Young St. Dunstaners

The eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Owen, of Blaenau Festiniog, was married on April 25th to Sergt. I. P. Hughes, Royal Welch Fusiliers.

★ ★ ★

Lilian Ethel Burnett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Burnett, of Edmonton, was married to Gunner Leonard V. Trowse, Royal Artillery, on April 26th.

★ ★ ★

Betty Horsfall, daughter of our late St. Dunstaner, T. Horsfall, of York, married Corporal A. Marshall, of the R.A.F., on May 9th.

★ ★ ★

We very much regret to hear that the son of A. G. Bright, of East Barnet, while on duty with the Auxiliary Fire Service, was seriously injured and extensively burnt in a recent "blitz" on London. We wish him a good recovery.

★ ★ ★

The sons of E. Sayers, of Northampton, are both Leading Aircraftmen now.

Promotion

John Law, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Law, of Gotherington, has got his commission and is now 2nd Lieut., Royal Engineers.

Derby Sweepstake

Extension of Closing Date

Since the announcement of our Sweepstake, the date of the Derby has been altered by the Stewards. The race will now be run on June 18th or 19th, at Newmarket, instead of on June 6th or 7th, at Newbury, as previously announced.

The closing date of the Sweepstake is therefore extended to **Monday, June 9th**. The draw will take place at Headquarters in Regent's Park on the afternoon of Thursday, June 12th. Those drawing horses will be notified the following day.

Competition Result

The National Savings Competition has been won by G. E. G. Rushton, of Cullercoats. The serial number was 211831; his entry gave 211633. The certificate has accordingly been sent to him.

A Melplash Legend

Melplash Court, St. Dunstan's Home in the beautiful Dorsetshire country, has an interesting history. The Court dates from the sixteenth century, and was once owned by the famous Sir Thomas More, and later by the Paulets.

Its acquisition by the latter family is reputed to have been the sequel to a joke. Sir Thomas, in the reign of Henry VIII, was Sheriff of Dorset. He appears to have been a jovial being who took his responsibilities lightly and one day, after a "generous use of strong waters," conceived the idea of releasing all the prisoners from Dorchester Gaol. So to the gaol he went, and to the dismay of the warders, ordered the gates and doors to be unlocked and the prisoners set free. Shrieval authority in those days was unquestionable—and very soon the spectacle was observed of scores of prisoners running in all directions to create the greatest possible distance between themselves and Dorchester.

Naturally there was a sequel. When the King heard of the exploit, the Sheriff was hauled before him to explain, and Sir Thomas had to seek a pardon from him. This was obtained by the Lord Treasurer of the day (Lord Paulet), who demanded as a suitable recognition of this good deed the marriage of Sir Thomas's daughter to Lord Paulet's second son. Social rank was a desirable asset in those days. The marriage took place, and thus originated the motto of Melplash Court, "Aimez loyaulte."

Mr. William V. C. Ruxton, who has so kindly lent Melplash Court to St. Dunstan's, has, since he bought the house, added a new wing, but has retained much of its historical features.

Sympathy

We offer our deepest sympathy to J. R. F. Ireby, of Colchester, whose four brothers and sisters have lost their lives as a result of enemy action. His mother was badly injured.

Blinded Prisoners of War

St. Dunstan's has asked the Red Cross and Order of St. John War Organisation to conduct an agreed scheme of help to the British blinded prisoners of war now in Germany, through their Invalid Comforts Section, which has special facilities, and it is hoped shortly to get this functioning.

The scheme includes the provision of invalid comforts, gifts of braille watches, special ridged paper to enable the prisoner to write home, and the teaching of braille reading through correspondence with the aid of sighted prisoners of war who will be asked to act as teachers.

It is felt that we can help these men very much indeed, since while they are awaiting repatriation they will be usefully occupied and may begin to learn to be blind in the St. Dunstan's tradition.

An Appreciation

S. C. Tarry, of Wandsworth, who was bombed out in a recent raid, asks us to place on record his deep appreciation of the help St. Dunstan's gave him in his trouble. In a letter to Sir Ian, he writes :—

"Thank you for your very kind and sympathetic letter. As you have, I expect, been told, the damage to property and personal belongings was severe, but fortunately physical injuries were nil. Please also thank Lady Fraser for her kindly thought and good wishes.

"I am also writing to place on record my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Lale and the staff of the Welfare Department for their prompt and sympathetic manner of coming to our help. It is one more proof of the bond of friendship that exists between the staff and the men of St. Dunstan's."

National Egg Laying Test

Report for the sixth period of four weeks
March 10th to April 6th, 1941

Position	Name	Test Score	
		...	Value
1	Campbell, John	...	613
2	Holmes, Percy	...	571
3	Fisher, T. M.	...	554
4	Fisher, T. M.	...	531
5	Capper, A. H.	...	490
6	Smith, W. Alan	...	476
7	Hill, R. E.	...	467
8	Carpenter, E. H.	...	443
9	Chaffin, A.	...	441
10	Holmes, Percy	...	423
11	Hammett, H. A.	...	407
Average per bird, 95.31.			

Third Party Risks

THE train was already in motion when I boarded it, so I was left with no choice but to adopt the uncongenial rôle of gooseberry until the next stop.

The Airman was very young. His new tunic was devoid of any sign of rank, and no premonition of coming tribulation clouded his smooth brow. He folded his arms and prepared to endure my unwelcome presence in silence. Not so, however, the spectacular damsel at his side. After one brief, disdainful glance, which dismissed me as a thing of no account, she resumed the thread of their interrupted discourse.

"But won't you get a medal for it?" she inquired.

The youth started slightly and gave her a warning look.

"No," he replied curtly.

"Why not?"

The reason was delivered in a whisper, but I caught the words "jealousy" and "influence."

"I think it's a shame!" cried the maiden indignantly. "Why, I've read of heaps of cases in the papers where men have got medals for only bringing down one or two! Was it nine or nineteen you said you shot down that night?"

For one fleeting instant I caught and held the youth's eye. In it I read stark horror. Beads of perspiration started out on his forehead. Desperately he drew the damsel's attention to some cows in a distant field.

But she was not interested in cows. She repeated her question.

"Nine," gulped the harassed Airman, choosing, I felt, the lesser number in deference to my credulity.

"I suppose," observed the maiden, after a short pause—"I suppose that as you were alone they wouldn't believe you when you got back to the aerodrome?"

The Airman said nothing. He appeared to be learning the warning about putting one's head out of the window off by heart.

"But they *must* have known really," persisted his fair tormentor, straightening a devastating hat with the tips of her fingers, "I mean, you coming back with your fuselage simply riddled by thousands and thousands of bullet holes. . . . What are you pulling faces at me for?"

The unhappy youth leaned back and closed his eyes.

"Are you ill?" asked the lady.

The sufferer opened his eyes. Chivalry, I could see, was beginning to crack under the strain.

"I don't want to talk about it any more," he hissed. "Forget it!"

The damsel regarded him in round-eyed bewilderment. I gathered that she found this sudden access of modesty all the more inexplicable for a previous lack of it.

"But —" she began.

"Have you been dancing much lately?" inquired the Airman will ill-suppressed venom.

The maiden ignored the question.

"Didn't you feel awful," she went on, "when you saw those bombers go down one after another in flames? I mean, you'd killed them, hadn't you?"

The Scourge of the Skies ran a quivering finger round the inside of his collar. More warmth than remorse was reflected on his ingenious countenance. He slammed the window down and the roar of the train's progress filled the compartment. Something like relief momentarily crossed his features.

But only momentarily. His companion had been trained in cafés to compete with orchestras and crashing crockery. Clear and bell-like her voice rose above the din to wonder if he had felt at all afraid during his clash with Goering's Luftwaffe.

I missed his answer; it was lost in the vicious bang of the upflung window.

"Tell me," prattled the unabashed maiden, "how do you find your way about Germany in the dark? I mean, it'll be simply as black as anything, won't it?"

My heart bled for the unhappy youth. Navigation was so obviously a far distant item on his curriculum.

"You wouldn't understand," he muttered hoarsely.

"But if *you* explained I'm sure I should," she insisted with a melting glance.

The Airman licked dry lips and sought for inspiration on the heat-regulator. It came after a pregnant pause.

"We—we aren't allowed to tell."

A tremulous sigh of relief broke from him as he cleared this difficult fence. His relief, however, was premature.

"But you can tell *me*," cooed the maiden. "I won't breathe a word to a living soul.

Besides, you told me how you rescued those prisoners from Germany with a rope ladder."

I heard the youth's jaw click. His eyes turned glassy. The limit had been reached. Romance was dead—slain by my unfortunate presence.

The train began to pull up. I gave every indication of my intention to retire, but I had no hope that the lady would be able to retrieve the situation. She had driven the iron too deeply into her hero's soul.

As I stepped out I breathed a prayer that consolation in the shape of wings might be granted eventually to that Airman in this world, for I had grave doubts of his winning any in the next.

P.M.L.

—*The Iron Duke.*

£25 for a Mat

Congratulations to J. J. Morgan, of Wantage, who raffled one of his mats for War Weapons Week. It brought in the splendid sum of £25.

The Old Guard

*Come back, old soldier, to the ranks again;
Stirring the call re-echoes through the land,
Bidding you lay aside the mighty pen,
And peaceful tools that toil beneath the hand.
What though you blithely swore in days of old,
And chanted "No more soldiering for me,"
With groanings deep and fervent oaths that
rolled*

*Hot from the parching tongue's profanity;
Were these so firmly rooted after all,
Or just the outlet of a fiercesome strain,
A pain-born resolution, bound to fail?
Only convicted truth such vows retain.
Do not your work-worn fingers softly itch
The friendly rifle once again to grasp?
And hear the bolt snap home against the breech,
Or test its balance with familiar grasp?
And do you thrill to every martial air;
The bugle's summons and the rolling drum;
Stern voiced commands upon the barrack square,
And cheery songs, that help to overcome
The weary ache of limbs, numb with the load
Of clogging, close equipment, heavy weighed,
The maddening scrunch of boots upon the road,
And sun-dazed eyes, all clamorous for shade.
These are the hard inducements that now urge;
These, with the strong companionship of men,
Who choose to wear afresh the mantled serge;
Come back, old soldier, to the ranks again.*

R.J.V.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE FREDERICK CHARLES DAVIS
(*Somersetshire Light Infantry*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of F. C. Davis, of Street, Somerset.

Davis lost his sight as a result of his service in the Great War, but he did not come to St. Dunstan's until 1937. His health was not good enough to allow him to come for training, so instruction was given to him in his own home. Here he worked at wool rugs until early this year, but he then became very ill, and his death on March 14th was not unexpected.

The funeral took place quietly a few days later, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We extend our very sincere sympathy to Mrs. Davis and her family in their bereavement.

LANCE CORPORAL FRANK MARSHALL
(*East Yorkshire Regiment*)

WE record with deep regret the death of F. Marshall, of Bridlington.

Enlisting in 1914, Marshall came to us just one year later—in November, 1915—after receiving head-wounds in Belgium, which resulted in his loss of sight. Up to the time of his death he suffered as a result of his wounds, but became very seriously ill some weeks ago. He was admitted to the Leeds Ministry of Pensions Hospital, where he died on April 11th, 1941.

He took training in poultry-farming, carpentry, etc., but for many years he was in business which gave him a tremendous amount of interest and work. A comparatively short time ago he decided, for health reasons, to give this up, and of late carried on with joinery.

He leaves a wife and one son, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy. The funeral took place at Leeds. A wreath from Sir Ian and his comrades was sent.

AIR MECHANIC GEORGE FREDERICK TAYLOR
(*Royal Air Force*)

WE deeply regret to announce the death of G. F. Taylor, of Epsom.

This St. Dunstan lost his sight as a result of wounds received whilst serving with the Royal Air Force in Italy. He came to St. Dunstan's shortly afterwards, where he received training as a masseur, but his health was far from good and, after a short time, he had to give this up. He then took up basket work. His health, however, continued to grow worse, and he was eventually admitted to hospital, where he remained until his death on March 10th.

The funeral took place a few days later, and among the wreaths was one from Sir Ian and his comrades at St. Dunstan's.

We send our very sincere sympathy to his mother and other relatives.

SERGEANT ROBERT YOUNG
(*Royal Army Ordnance Corps*)

WITH deep regret we record the death of R. Young, of Glasgow.

Young enlisted in October, 1915, and although he was discharged from the Army in June, 1919, it was not until 1932 that he came under the care of St. Dunstan's. In spite of indifferent health and deafness, he took up light basket-making, at which occupation he carried on with the determined spirit which characterised all he did. Unfortunately, his deafness increased and finally, after a severe illness and much suffering, he died at his home on February 11th.

He leaves a widow and two children, to whom we extend our heartfelt sympathy, knowing how much he will be missed by them.

A wreath was sent from Sir Ian and his comrades.

Mrs. Stowell Taylor

IT is with deep regret that we have heard of the death of Mrs. Stowell Taylor, who was associated with the Dining Room and Linen Room at St. Dunstan's in its early days, and was at one time Matron of the Blackheath Annexe.

Her sister, Miss Gregg, worked at St. Dunstan's at the same time as Quartermaster, and in the Canteen, and St. Dunstaners, with the happiest memories of their old association with us, will grieve at Mrs. Stowell Taylor's passing, and will join with us in sending our sincere sympathy to Miss Gregg.

A Correction

We deeply regret that, owing to an unfortunate mistake on the part of the printer, the impression was given in last month's REVIEW that our St. Dunstaner, H. W. Spinks, of Hemel Hempstead, had died.

Spinks himself is well, but he has suffered the loss of his wife, after a long and painful illness.

We offer our sincere apologies for any inconvenience the error may have caused him, and our deep sympathy with him in his sad loss.

ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

For Blinded British Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen

No. 275—VOLUME XXV [NEW SERIES]

JUNE, 1941

PRICE 3d. MONTHLY.
[FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Princess Royal Visits St. Dunstan's

THE Princess Royal visited our Hospital and Training Centre at Church Stretton on Thursday, May 22nd. All the men and most of the staff were presented to her, and she took the keenest possible interest in their well-being. Truly the devotion of members of the Royal Family to their arduous duty, and the grace and charm with which they discharge it, is an example to us all.

Last time the Princess Royal, or Princess Mary as she then was, visited St. Dunstan's she came with her brother, then Prince of Wales, in 1916. Her Royal Highness recalled this visit, and so did I, for in those days I was myself a pupil learning braille. That seems a long time ago, but St. Dunstaners all over the world will remember those times and will visualise how history repeats itself at Church Stretton.

St. Dunstaners Can Take It

The number of St. Dunstaners and their families who have been blown out of their homes increases. Every week accommodation is found for St. Dunstaners at our Blackpool and Melpash homes, and for their families nearby, or in suitable places. The rest and change thus afforded is invaluable, and recovery from shock and nerve strain is swift. The family is then re-settled as far as conditions allow.

Although we do our best, however, and are spending, and rightly spending, considerable sums of additional money on this special service, the upset to normal life remains. I cannot express too highly my admiration of St. Dunstaners and their wives and families under these trying ordeals. Truly, St. Dunstaners can take it, and by doing so in a courageous spirit they are helping to win the war.

St. Dunstan's, too, has had further knocks. My old office looks as if a seventy-ton tank had been driven right through it, but we patch up and carry on. At our establishments in London and St. Albans, the staff, including girls in their teens, help our courageous night watchmen and take their turn at fire-watching. Recently, when a bomb shattered our present Headquarters office, the staff moved their desks and typewriters out on to the lawn and despatched four hundred letters while the debris was being cleared up.

Notable St. Dunstaners

Each month the ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW records the passing of a small number of our members. Each brief paragraph reminds us of military duty well done in the Great War, and of a life of courage and patience and usefulness. How often the virtues in a man shine

forth when his life is subjected to the day-to-day handicap of severe disability, such as blindness. We are reminded too by these little life stories of the wife's part, so important during the blinded soldier's life, so poignant now he is gone. Not all men can make an easily recognised contribution to the world's work, whether they see or whether they are blind, but they also serve who are able to set a quiet example of fortitude.

Last month two St. Dunstaners died whose lives illustrate aspects of St. Dunstan's worth pondering. St. Dunstan's has taught two great lessons, one, that if you have a profession before you are blinded it is surprising how often you can go back to it and carry on. And, two, that if you have not, but are very young, you can learn something entirely unfamiliar and make your mark.

The Reverend Harold Gibb is an example of the first class, and Edmund Toft of the second.

Harold Gibb served as a Trooper in the South African war. He then took Holy Orders in the Church of England. The Great War found him a padre with the 4th Dragoon Guards. On the field of battle, when other officers had been killed, his view of his duty made him take off his parson's collar and become a combatant officer. Thus he served as a fighting man until he was blinded in May, 1915, when, after a time at St. Dunstan's, he returned to the Church and served as Parish Priest, and Chaplain and friend of soldiers and ex-Servicemen, until his death, at the age of 62, on May 28th, 1941. He was a familiar figure at the Cavalry Memorial Service each year. He frequently visited our camps and reunions in the Midlands, and at Whitsuntide last year did Chapel duty for us at Brighton. He conducted the whole service and preached his sermon from memory. A friend of the late Lord Baden Powell, he edited an International Braille Magazine for Blind Boy Scouts.

Whether you judge it by his influence over his friends and acquaintances or patients, or whether you consider material success, Edmund Toft's life was one of the most outstanding amongst St. Dunstaners. He had not found his place in the world, for he was too young, when military service claimed him and terminated with blindness. As a massage student in the early years of St. Dunstan's his personality soon made his presence felt amongst men and staff. Romance swiftly followed, and he married Miss Violette le Duché, a young and most attractive French girl, who was a voluntary Braille Teacher at St. Dunstan's. As a result of many years of very hard work, he built up a successful massage practice in the West End of London. He allowed himself no rest, and working intensely hard carried on this practice, did much valuable committee work for his profession, and attended a two-year course in Osteopathy. After another ten years he was one of the leading figures in this profession and had a wide and lucrative practice. He was a very good, all-round blind man, a voracious reader of braille, at which he was expert, a high-class bridge player, and excellent at finding his way about unaided. He was a good speaker and endowed with a charming voice and personality.

When this war came he offered me his services, and at a considerable financial sacrifice went to Church Stretton to start the first course of instruction in massage for young blinded soldiers of this war. Others pay tribute to him on another page; I need only add that he loved St. Dunstan's, and that St. Dunstan's was very proud of him.

A brief illness took him away at the early age of 46, but his example will survive and will encourage many of us, particularly the younger St. Dunstaners, upon whom his character and ability made such a deep impression.

Director of Training

Mr. I. M. Bankes-Williams has been appointed Director of Training, and will take up his duties at Church Stretton on June 23rd. He will be in full charge of all St. Dunstan's responsibilities at the Training Centre at Church Stretton, including training, welfare, discipline, and staff.

I am happy to say that Miss Dorothy Pain, O.B.E., will carry on as Matron and assistant to the Director, and that Mr. Davenport will remain Medical Commandant at the Hospital and medical adviser to all St. Dunstan's establishments at Church Stretton.

Mr. Bankes-Williams served as an officer in the Royal Field Artillery in the Great War, attaining the rank of Captain and Adjutant at a very early age, and comes to us from

Harrow School, where he has been head of the Army Class. Mr. Banks-Williams has administrative and educational experience of a high order, as will be seen from the notes of his record on another page, and Miss Pain has unrivalled experience of St. Dunstan's. I hope and believe this combination will be the best that we could possibly have arranged.

We owe Miss Pain a deep debt of gratitude for having done the work of at least two persons during the past year, and for having displayed such gifts of discretion and decision in starting the new training centre, with all its human and material problems.

IAN FRASER.

News of St. Dunstaners

Our shop-keeper, J. H. Mason, reports that, in spite of enemy action, business is very good and he is kept extremely busy, especially as he has been appointed by the Public Health Department to supply both staff and patients at the Isolation Hospital with all their food needs, with the exception of butchery.

★ ★ ★

H. Smy, of Yoxford, who is making a splendid contribution to the war effort by "ditching" on a farm, was recently machine-gunned while he was at work, but fortunately without any injury.

★ ★ ★

E. W. Wakelin, of Huntingdon, and his wife, are doing their bit, too. They have seven little girls billeted on them—from seven to fourteen years of age—and managing marvellously.

★ ★ ★

We have heard with deep regret that A. Rodgers, of Barrow-in-Furness, lost an aunt and two cousins as a result of an air-raid.

Silver Weddings

Congratulations to the following, who are celebrating their silver weddings: Mr. and Mrs. G. Hadfield, Ottery St. Mary, June 1st; Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Taylor, Grantham, June 12th; Mr. and Mrs. H. Shayler, Liverpool, June 21st.

Silver Wedding and Diamond Wedding in One Family

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Brown, of Nuneaton, celebrated their silver wedding on June 10th—and Mr. and Mrs. C. Brown, of Mildura, Australia, celebrated their diamond wedding on March 19th. Mr. and Mrs. C. Brown, of Australia, are our St. Dunstaners' father and mother. To both couples we extend our sincere congratulations and good wishes.

W. T. Curtis-Willson, Flight Lieutenant, R.A.F.

We offer our sincere congratulations to W. T. Curtis-Willson, of Brighton, who has been gazetted a Flight Lieutenant in the R.A.F. (V.R.) for service with the Air Training Corps as Commanding Officer of the Brighton Squadrons.

In the course of his career, he has already made a distinguished name for himself. He is Managing Director of the *Brighton and Hove Herald*, and a Justice of the Peace. In 1933 he was awarded the M.B.E., and for some years was one of the two employer-representatives for Sussex on the Sussex County Territorial Army Association. All St. Dunstaners will wish him the best of luck in his new office.

St. Dunstaners as Home Guards

According to our records, we have four St. Dunstaners who are members of the Home Guard. W. Lowings, of course, was the first. He joined in July of last year. Now we hear that E. Garthwaite, of Rotherham, J. E. Burley, of Truro, and Jock Duncan have enrolled. Burley, who is a poultry-farmer with an excellently-run farm and stock, does guard-room duty, taking messages, and so on. Garthwaite has also received his uniform and he does duty in the armoury, keeping the rifles clean, and receiving them from the lads after parade. Jock Duncan, for many years on one of our largest and busiest switchboards, has his uniform and equipment. In the event of an emergency, he will relinquish his work with the Corporation and will be placed in charge of communications.

Congratulations to all four—and to any other St. Dunstaners who may be Home Guards. They are doing a splendid job of work and must be a fine example to their sighted comrades.

The Princess Royal at St. Dunstan's

HER Royal Highness The Princess Royal paid a visit to St. Dunstan's, Church Stretton, on May 22nd. The Princess, who was wearing Girl Guide uniform, was received at Longmynd by Sir Ian Fraser, Lady Fraser, Matron Pain, Mr. R. C. Davenport, the Medical Commandant, and Colonel Eric Ball, Chairman of the Hospital Committee. With the Princess were Miss Sybil Kenyon-Slaney (lady-in-waiting), Viscountess Boyne, the Earl of Powis (Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire), and Col. J. H. Westley, County Director of the British Red Cross.

The party proceeded to the lounge, where Mrs. Irvine, who is in charge of "Battlefield," the blinded officers' house, and Mr. Hawketts, were presented. Her Royal Highness spoke to each one of the St. Dunstaners present, old and new, and to those who were there for treatment and early training.

The Braille Room was visited, and then the party walked along the verandah, where the staff were assembled, and Miss Headon, the housekeeper, and Mr. J. Carroll, the chef, were presented.

The Princess then inspected the operating theatre with Mr. Davenport, and the massage instruction room, and from there the party proceeded to the workshops and to the telephone school. Before leaving the training centre, the Princess signed the distinguished visitors' book.

At the Hospital, Tiger Hall, Matron Postlethwaite was presented to Her Royal Highness, who then visited the wards and had a word with the patients. She was then conducted to the massage clinic, where J. Mahony gives treatment. The activities of the poultry farm were also explained to the Princess, and a basket of eggs presented to her by Pte. R. Patterson, of the Black Watch. A basket was also presented to her by Gunner Philip Todd, of the Royal Horse Artillery.

Talking to Sir Ian, the Princess recalled that she visited St. Dunstan's in Regent's Park in 1916, when he himself was learning braille.

St. Dunstaners and staff gathered together outside the Hospital and gave the Princess a rousing cheer as she drove away.

Since Her Royal Highness's visit, Sir Ian has received the following letter from Miss Sybil Kenyon-Slaney :—

May 24th, 1941.

DEAR SIR IAN,

The Princess Royal desires me to write to you to thank you very much both for your letters and also for all the arrangements you had made for Her Royal Highness's visit to St. Dunstan's on Thursday last.

Nothing could have been better planned, and the very most seemed to have been made of the time available. Will you please say this to all who were responsible.

The Princess is so glad to have had the opportunity of coming to St. Dunstan's, and seeing one of its Branches in such a delightful new home—and it was indeed inspiring to see not only the splendid work which is being done, but the fine courage of all those who are facing altered lives.

If possible Her Royal Highness would like to purchase some of the articles made by St. Dunstan's men, and perhaps a selection could be sent to Harewood for her to choose from.

Lady Boyne and I were both so glad to be there, and I do indeed hope to come again some day.—Yours very sincerely,

(Sgd) SYBIL KENYON-SLANEY.
Lady-in-Waiting.

Other Church Stretton Notes

War Weapons Week Fete

WAR Weapons Week at Church Stretton opened on Saturday, May 25th, with a march past, in which some of our men took part, and many were present at the Drumhead Service the following afternoon.

At the men's own suggestion, a Fete was held at Longmynd as our contribution to the effort, and a Committee was selected, consisting of Mrs. Greenland, Mr. Hawketts, T. Rogers, A. Robinson, and J. Calder. Directly the plan was announced, some enthusiastic St. Dunstaners set off daily on a house-to-house canvass of the village, advertising the Fete and selling raffle tickets in advance to the value of £40.

Although, owing to the weather, some of the outdoor events had to be cancelled, the greater part were brought under cover. The band of the R.A.O.C. played continuously from 5.30 till long after the prescribed hour of 10, which was to have brought dancing (including spot competitions) to a close. It is impossible to enumerate all the competitions and side-shows—in every case a St. Dunstaner and

a member of the staff shared the duty of stall-holder. The Egyptian Sorceress delighted her clients by a very cheap shillings-worth of fortune-telling—evacuees saw how housekeeping can be carried on happily in a caravan. There were demonstrations of arts and crafts in the workshops; the lift was busy taking people to the Art Exhibition, or to the roof to admire the view. The Hospital at Tiger Hall was thrown open for inspection, and about twenty competitions kept things lively and gathered in funds for the good cause. Mrs. Greenland and her committee are to be congratulated on their excellent organisation, and on the result of their efforts, a net sum of £182 5s. 1d.

After the account of our gay doings, we must sound a sadder note, for it was only on the evening before the Royal Visit that Edmund Toft passed away. Some of us had known him for many years, and had warmly welcomed the news that he was coming to us as massage instructor. It was not his students only who gained by his coming, but everyone—men and staff—were heartened and helped by his presence amongst us. With the strength and beauty of his character, his ability and experience, he had so much to give, and he gave in full measure with the charm and friendliness that endeared him to us all.

His influence will continue to help us, and the memory of his gay, brave spirit will live in our hearts. Death found him ready, and we mourn a great St. Dunstaner.

New Hospital Service Cases

The following new cases have been admitted to the Hospital during May:—

Driver Norman Cook, Royal Corps of Signals, aged 23 (Blythe, Northumberland); Fire Watcher J. L. Davies, aged 46 (Swansea); Flight Sergt. A. C. W. Booth, R.A.F., aged 32 (Ebbw Vale); Pilot Officer D. C. Tufnell, R.A.F., aged 22 (Fordingbridge, Hants).

The following have passed tests this month:—

Braille Writing.—J. L. Douglass.

Braille Reading.—W. Carlton.

Typing.—A. Evanno.

Blackpool Notes

We have had a number of Ministry of Information films up here lately, and one day a local M.o.I. cinema operator saw some of our "boys" walking along the front.

He thought, very sensibly, that though they could not see the film, they would enjoy the commentary, and so he came along, with his films, and we had a most interesting evening. The films were about ship-building, coal-mining, the training of air pilots, engineering, and a spot of fire-fighting. The operator gave a description of the films, and the "troops" thoroughly enjoyed his programme.

Talking Books

Important Notice

ONE or two cases have been brought to our notice where, when a St. Dunstaner has died, his widow has sold his Talking Book machine, either to another local St. Dunstaner or to a civilian blind person. This is a kindly act of advantage to both parties, but the question arises as to whether it is quite fair, having regard to the fact that there is normally a long waiting list for Talking Book machines.

The Chairman asks us to make it clear to all St. Dunstaners that he considers it the duty of a St. Dunstaner's widow to consult St. Dunstan's before selling a Talking Book machine, so that we may suggest the name of a St. Dunstaner, or a civilian living nearby, who is on the waiting list. St. Dunstan's will, of course, use its good offices to suggest a price for the sale, which will be fair to both buyer and seller.

It should be understood that the Library Service is free, and that the privilege of enjoying this benefit can only be granted by St. Dunstan's, and the National Institute in a case where it is approved, and that consideration must normally therefore be given first to those whose names are already on the waiting list.

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In spite of bombing we are still producing many good new books of all kinds. There may be some St. Dunstaners who are interested in obtaining a Talking Book machine, but whose name is not on our list. We have been fortunate in getting a limited number of new machines through, and if any St. Dunstaner wishes to be supplied with one, he would be advised to apply at once. St. Dunstaners who join the Talking Book Library now, of course, have the inestimable advantage that the whole of the excellent Library—the result of several years' work—is at their disposal.

Edmund Toft

Some Appreciations

T. Rogers writes:—

"All St. Dunstaners who had the good fortune to come in contact with our friend, Edmund Toft, will feel the poorer for his passing, but nowhere will his loss be felt more keenly than by us at Church Stretton; although his work among us was all too short, the friendly spirit and comradeship which he brought into all his contacts endeared him to all, especially our new young men, who saw in him a man who had triumphed over the difficulties which they themselves are preparing to surmount. He inspired them with courage and confidence, success could not spoil him, and they soon learned to love, admire, and respect him. Many of them are filled with the desire to mould their new lives on his pattern—to them he typified the true spirit of St. Dunstan's. His memory will be an encouragement to them to carry on."

W. T. Scott writes:—

"Edmund Toft was quick to apply himself to the task of overcoming his war disability. By his association with his fellow St. Dunstaners he soon helped others to tackle the same task. By his example many of us have been inspired, and by his boundless energy encouraged to attempt what had at first seemed to be impossible."

"Throughout his many activities he always brought to bear a clear understanding of the problems to be dealt with, and applied his steady and skilful judgment to the benefit of his fellows. We have lost a guide, philosopher, and friend."

T. Roden writes:—

"It is with most sincere pride and the deepest regret that St. Dunstaners everywhere respectfully request St. Dunstan's to place on record our great appreciation of the truly valuable and admirable services which our late colleague and friend, Edmund Toft, has rendered to his fellow St. Dunstaners during his many years of association with us."

"Edmund Toft possessed high ideals, loved mankind and progress, and was ever helpful to human society wherever he went. He propagated his ideals always by the most effective weapon of propaganda—practical example. His philosophy and religion were based upon the strong and solid foundation

of universal brotherhood. He strived constantly to improve the world in which he lived. . . . He was ever constant, with a firm mind, renouncing no just right from fear, and gave up no important truth from flattery. Sincerity formed his address at all times."

Derby Sweepstake

Result of Draw

The draw for the Derby Sweepstake was made on June 12th at Headquarters, by Micky Burran and Mr. Stanford, Appeals Organiser, in the presence of the Editor of THE REVIEW and members of the staff. The result of the draw was as follows:—

Horse	Ticket No.	Name
ANNATOM	41	D. B. Chapple, Merstham
CAMPERDOWN	109	Capt. W. Appleby, Newcastle
CUERDLEY	919	J. McVee, Braintree
CHATEAU	993	T. Roden, Wembley Park
LAROSE		
DEVONIAN	273	H. Porter, Southampton
FAIRY PRINCE	35	D. B. Chapple, Merstham
FETTES	381	R. Garratt, Nottingham
FIROZE DIN	646	W. B. Brockerton, Ireland
LAMBERT	434	C. McCairn, Bradford
SIMNEL		
MAZARIN	665	A. C. Rogers, Wrexham
MR. SAWYER	158	G. Eades, Wivelrod
MOROGORO	652	W. Lowings, Chandlers Ford
ORTHODOX	118	W. Shakspeare, Birmingham
OWEN TUDOR	541	A. H. Kay, Letchworth
PTOLEMY	9	V. R. Green, Whaplode
ROYAL	802	J. Boyd, Brighton
ACADEMY		
SELIM HASSAN	444	C. Marshall, Southchurch
SUN CASTLE	895	J. Ridley, Finchley
SINGLE COURT	165	G. J. Smith, Leicester
SUNNY ISLAND	201	T. W. Saunders, Bethnal Green
STARWORT	714	T. Randall, Lancing
THOROUGHFARE	245	J. F. Leeman, Louth
VALDAVIAN	817	J. S. Steeley, Hull
THE FIELD	795	G. Orrow, Chingford

The Melplash Legend

It has been pointed out that there was a mistake in the legend of Melplash Court, which was printed in last month's REVIEW. The first paragraph should have read "The Court dates from the sixteenth century and was once owned by Sir Thomas More (*not the famous Chancellor*)."

Our article had been reprinted from another source which, unfortunately, had omitted the last four words.

The famous Chancellor, Sir Thomas More, is remembered by all Englishmen as one of its wisest men, and is honoured as a saint by English Catholics.

The British Legion

THE British Legion held their usual Annual Conference in London at Whitsuntide. The broad decisions of the Conference are illustrated by the four resolutions which are set out below, with a note as to whether they were carried or lost.

Brigadier General Fitzpatrick, the Chairman of the Legion's Pensions Committee, referred to the valuable help given by Sir Ian Fraser in the House of Commons, and said that the Legion's Pensions Policy would be virile and militant.

The question of the inclusion in the British Legion of Members of the Civil Defence Forces was referred to a special committee, which will report at the next Conference.

Resolutions Proposed

That this Conference requests the Council to adopt a virile, militant policy towards the Ministry of Pensions until such time as the regulations of the Pensions Royal Warrant are, at least, placed upon an equal status to that of the war of 1914-1921 (*Carried*).

That this Conference is of the opinion that the British Legion should seek to increase pensions of the Great War totally disabled men (*Lost*).

That this Conference resolves that immediate pressure be brought on the Ministry of Pensions to establish an Independent Appeals Tribunal throughout the country, to enable men discharged from the Service, who have been denied compensation, to appeal independently, in precisely the same way as is granted any kind of dissatisfied citizen (*Carried*).

That this Conference is of the opinion that the need conditions of the Parents' Pension are being too vigorously enforced, and requests that a review be made of the whole position (*Carried*).

Wounded in Action

We have heard with regret that Neville Moore, of the Scots Guards, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Moore, of Southport, has been wounded in action. He had been in the Army since he was fifteen. Many St. Dunstaners will probably remember him at Brighton, for he often went down there when he had leave and was stationed in London.

Appointments

Welfare Department

IN order to meet the situation created by war conditions, and the consequent separation of the Northern and Southern Area offices, and Mr. T. E. Swain's retirement, we have obtained the services of Miss L. A. M. McMurtrie, as Welfare Superintendent.

Mrs. Paul and Miss Wilson will be Area Superintendents, and all correspondence should be sent to them as at present. Miss Hensley is unable to continue visiting men in Hampshire, but will still call on men in Bedfordshire. Miss McMurtrie hopes to meet all Social Visitors within a short time, and also take the opportunity of calling upon individual St. Dunstaners, especially in Hampshire, at the same time maintaining contact with each Area office.

St. Dunstaners will, we are sure, be glad to welcome Miss McMurtrie personally as soon as they have the opportunity.

Mr. Bankes-Williams

Director of Training

MR. I. M. Bankes-Williams, who has been appointed Director of Training at Church Stretton, has a distinguished record.

He is forty-four years of age, married, and was educated at Radley College and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where he gained classical honours. He left Cambridge, however, in 1914, to join the Army, and served throughout the last war in France, Egypt, and Gallipoli, retiring as captain adjutant in 1919. He returned to Cambridge, in spite of the fact that his University career was somewhat delayed owing to health reasons, caused by the war.

He was appointed an assistant master at Harrow School in 1923, and in that capacity has been responsible for the Army class, with a high record of success. For four years he was honorary secretary, and later Chairman of the Science Masters' Association, and during the last three years has been entirely responsible for the organisation, training, and administration of Harrow School air-raid precautions, having first qualified himself at the Government School as a first-class instructor. His out-of-school interests include coaching in games and play production, and he has practical knowledge of carpentry and wood-carving.

“ In Memory ”

PRIVATE EDMUND TOFT
7th Royal Sussex Regiment

WITH deepest regret we record the death of Edmund Toft, which took place at Church Stretton on May 21st.

Enlisting just a week after the outbreak of war in 1914, he came to us in April, 1916. Subsequently he built up for himself a remunerative practice as a masseur and osteopath, and his treatment rooms in Chandos Street were widely known. He served as a member of the Council of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics, as a member of the Council of the National Institute for the Blind, and of the Association of Certificated Blind Masseurs, and as Chairman of St. Dunstan's Massage Advisory Committee.

The funeral took place at Church Stretton on May 24th. St. Dunstan's was very fully represented by men and staff from the Hospital and Training Centre, and the Massage Advisory Committee and Department were represented by Messrs. W. T. Scott, T. G. Roden, and A. Mace.

He leaves a widow, herself a braille teacher at St. Dunstan's during the Great War, and two sons, to whom we extend our deep sympathy.

THE REV. J. H. O. GIBB
Irish Dragoon Guards

It is with deep regret that we record the death of the Rev. Harold Gibb.

At the outbreak of war in 1914, Mr. Gibb, who was educated at Harrow, and had served as a captain in the Imperial Yeomanry in the Boer War, went to France as an Army Chaplain with the 2nd Cavalry Brigade. The following October he was granted a commission as Lieutenant in the Irish Dragoon Guards and in May, 1915, he was severely wounded and blinded at the battle of Poitiche. He came to St. Dunstan's and in 1921 took over the benefice of Sherbourne, Warwick. He was Vicar of Sherbourne for fifteen years. He will be remembered by many St. Dunstaners, for in recent years he has often taken the services at St. Dunstan's Chapel, Ovingdean, and had given to St. Dunstan's the medallion of sixteenth century glass recovered from the Cloth Hall, Ypres, which is inset in a window there.

The funeral took place at Sherbourne, on May 31st. The service was conducted by the Bishop of Coventry. St. Dunstan's was represented by Miss Hamar Greenwood, Member of the Council, St. Dunstan J. Best and his wife, and Miss Gough, After-Care Visitor. The Last Post was sounded by trumpeters.

Mr. Gibb leaves a widow, two sons, and a daughter, to whom we offer deepest sympathy.

Birth

COOPER.—To the wife of V. Cooper, of Brighton, on May 10th, a daughter—Mary Edna.

Deaths

We offer our deepest sympathy to the following:—

BIRKETT.—To C. B. Birkett, of Great Crosby, Lancs., whose mother passed away on May 21st.

EVANS.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. Evans, of Walsall, who have lost their married daughter in tragic circumstances. She was electrocuted through touching an electric fire in the bathroom with wet hands.

LYNCH.—To D. Lynch, of Cork, whose brother, Jeremiah, died at the beginning of May.

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Our deep sympathy is extended to the wife of our St. Dunstaner, A. H. Kay, of Letchworth. Mrs. Kay lost her sister, and the nine members of the latter's family, as a result of a recent air-raid.

Mr. G. C. Drinkwater

St. Dunstan's rowing men will hear with the deepest regret of the death, as a result of enemy action, of Mr. G. C. Drinkwater.

Mr. Drinkwater, who was sixty, was an architect and artist by profession, but was widely known as a rowing coach and a writer on rowing. For many years he had taken the greatest interest in the men of St. Dunstan's, and many times had acted as an umpire at their regatta at Putney. His death is a loss to the world of sport.

He rowed in the Oxford crews of 1902 and 1903.

He served as a trooper in the South African War, and in the last war rose to the rank of Brigadier Major, winning the M.C. and being twice mentioned in dispatches.

Killed in Action

With deepest regret we have heard that the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Wishart, has been lost on the *Hood*.

Braille Books

If any St. Dunstaner holds odd volumes of braille books obtained from the library at Regent's Park Headquarters, we should be very glad if they could be sent in.





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